

THE ELECTRICAL



WORKER

OFFICIAL JOURNAL

of the

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

OWNED AND PUBLISHED BY

THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Edited by PETER W. COLLINS, Grand Secretary

General Offices: Pierik Building

Springfield, Ill.

Entered as Second-Class Matter, June 6, 1906, at the Post Office
at Springfield, Ill., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

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Entered at the Post Office at Springfield, Ill., According to Act of Congress as Second-Class Matter.

Vol. VIII, No. 7

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., MAY, 1908

Single Copies, 10 Cents
\$1 per year in advance

IMPORTANT—READ FULLY.

BY SAMUEL GOMPERS.

ON February 3, 1908, the Supreme Court issued the most drastic and far-reaching decision which it has ever handed down. This decision directly affects all labor and hence the whole people. The case was that of the Loewe Co. against The United Hatters of North America. The court invokes the Sherman anti-trust law and under it decides that the Hatters are liable in damages according to the complaint of the Loewe Co. This action was first brought in the United States Circuit Court in the District of Connecticut, under Section 7 of the Sherman anti-trust law. The lower court sustained the contention of the Hatters that they were not liable under the Sherman law.

The Loewe Co. then carried the case by writ of error to the Circuit Court of Appeals. The Circuit Court desiring the instruction of the Supreme Court on the writ of error, put the question thus:

Upon this state of facts can the plaintiffs (Loewe & Co.) maintain an action against the defendants (Hatters) under Section 7 of the Sherman anti-trust law of July 2, 1890.

The plaintiffs and defendants then joined in the application to the Supreme Court to require the whole record and cause to be sent up for its consideration. This application was granted.

The Supreme Court invoked not only Section 7, but Sections 1 and 2 of the Sherman anti-trust act, and declared that: "In our opinion the combination described in the declaration (United Hatters) was a combination in restraint of trade or commerce among the several states in the sense in which those words are used in the act and the action can be maintained accordingly."

The decree also states:

And that conclusion rests on many judgments of this court to the effect that the act (Sherman anti-trust) prohibits any combination whatever to secure ac-

tion which essentially obstructs the free flow of commerce between the states, or restricts in that regard the liberty of a trader to engage in business.

The combination charged (boycott by Hatters) falls within the class of restraints of trade aimed at compelling third parties and strangers involuntarily not to engage in the course of trade except on conditions that the combination (Hatters) imposes.

The sections of the Sherman anti-trust law upon which the decision is based are as follows:

SECTION 1. "Every contract, combination in the form of trust or otherwise, or conspiracy, in restraint of trade or commerce among the several states or with foreign nations, is hereby declared to be illegal. Every person who shall make any such contract or engage in any such combination or conspiracy shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be punished by fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or by both said punishments, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 2. "Every person who shall monopolize, or attempt to monopolize, or combine or conspire with any other person or persons to monopolize any part of trade or commerce among the several states or with foreign nations shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be punished by fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or by both said punishments in the discretion of the court."

SEC. 7. "Any person who shall be injured in his business or property by any other person or corporation by reason of anything forbidden or declared to be unlawful by this act may sue therefor in any Circuit Court of the United States in the district in which the defendant resides or is found, without respect to the

amount in controversy, and shall recover threefold the damages by him sustained and the costs of suit, including a reasonable attorney's fee."

We publish elsewhere in this issue the Supreme Court decision in full. The court attached the complaint of the plaintiffs' in the margin of the decision, and it also quotes from their complaint in the body of the decision.

No more sweeping, far-reaching and important decision has ever been issued by the Supreme Court. The Dred Scott decision did not approach this in scope and importance, for it only decreed that any runaway slave could be pursued if he made his escape into a free state and his return compelled by all the powers of the government, to his owner to a slave state. Any person who assisted in the escape of a slave or who harbored him could be prosecuted before the courts for a criminal offense. That decision involved the few negro slaves who could make good their escape from a slave-holding state. The civil war annulled the decision of the Supreme Court and freed the slaves. It cost the lives of hundreds of thousands of brave men on both sides and emancipated from chattel slavery four millions of slaves. No man now proudly points to that famous Dred-Scott Supreme Court decision.

The decision of the Supreme Court in the Hatters' case involves every worker and every sympathizer with the ennobling work of the labor movement of our land. A study of this momentous decision reveals some strange peculiarities. Outside of the opening paragraphs quoted above, the decision has very little other than the citation of cases which are held to illustrate and support it. There are references to injunctions granted under the Sherman anti-trust act and brief comment upon the citations, the decision gives an outline of the complaint incorrect in many particulars, especially in its summary of boycott proceedings by the Hatters. It quotes directly and at great length from the complaint (Loewe & Co.). The decision concludes thus:

And then follows the averments (in Loewe complaint) that the defendants (Hatters) proceeded to carry out their combination to restrain and destroy interstate trade and commerce between the plaintiffs and their customers in other states by employing the identical means contrived for that purpose and that by reason of those acts plaintiffs were damaged in their business and property in some \$80,000.

We think a case within the statute was set up and that the demurrer should have been overruled.

Judgment (of lower court) reversed, and cause remanded with a direction to proceed accordingly.

Reference to the decision itself will show what precedents are quoted and what comments the court makes on them to show their alleged bearing on this case; but, in truth, not one of them in any degree parallels this case or sets any precedent that the layman can discover.

The Hatters' defense of the boycott, their explanation and justification—for the boycott is admitted—appears nowhere in the decision.

As the complaint of the plaintiffs (the Loewe Co.) is published in full with decision, it would seem only fair that the reply of the defendants (Hatters) should also have been reproduced.

As it is, the complaint of the plaintiffs is apparently taken by the court as a true and correct account of what happened, though it is in reality full of the most glaring inaccuracies and misstatements. We have not the space here to quote the complaint and point out its fallacies, but may do so in the future.

When the court quotes from the complaint it includes its errors.

Some of these we shall point out, for it is not right that what is destined to become so historic a decision should rest upon a faulty foundation of fact without protest.

The court, quoting from the plaintiff's complaint, directly, says that defendants were—

engaged in a combined scheme and effort to force all manufacturers of fur hats in the United States, including the plaintiffs, against their will, and their previous policy of carrying on their business, to organize their workmen in the departments of making and finishing in each of their factories into an organization, to be part and parcel of the said combination known as the United Hatters of North America, or as the defendants and their confederates term it, unionize their shops, with the intent thereby to control the employment of labor in and the operation of said factories, and to subject the same to the direction and control of persons other than the owners of the same, in a manner extremely onerous and distasteful to such owners, and to carry out such scheme, effort, and purpose, by restraining and destroying the interstate trade and commerce of such manufacturers, by means of intimidation of and threats made to such manufacturers and their customers in the several states, of boycotting them, their product and their customers, using therefor all the powerful means at their command as aforesaid until such time as, from the damage and loss of business resulting therefrom, the said manufacturers should yield to the said demand to unionize their factories.

The Hatters had union agreements with 70 out of 82 hat manufacturers in the

country. The Supreme Court says of this:

That the conspiracy or combination was so far progressed that out of 82 manufacturers of this country engaged in the production of fur hats, 70 had accepted the terms and acceded to the demand that the shop should be conducted in accordance, so far as conditions of employment were concerned, with the will of the American Federation of Labor; that the local union demanded of plaintiffs that they should unionize their shop under the peril of being boycotted by this combination, which demand defendants declined to comply with; that thereupon the American Federation of Labor, acting through its official organ and through its organizers, declared a boycott.

The court takes the amazing view that even the very successful effort of the Hatters' union to obtain and maintain industrial peace with employers is proof of unlawful conduct—that is, "conspiracy"—and under the Sherman anti-trust law unlawful and punishable by being mulcted in damages and by fine and imprisonment.

As a matter of fact neither the Hatters nor any other trade ever attempted to "force all manufacturers against their will" to make agreements with the union. Common sense teaches that a voluntary agreement between an employer and a union must be a peaceful one.

All union agreements with employers are voluntary and mutual.

No union could, if it tried, force an employer to enter into an agreement with it. No union attempts such unbusiness-like tactics. The most any union has done is to decline to buy the products of a firm which declined to employ union men and grant the prevailing rate of wages, hours of labor and conditions of employment. Supposing that they were exercising their constitutional right of free speech, union men have asked their friends and fellow-unionists not to buy such goods. A word as to this custom may not be amiss here.

No manufacturer, no retailer, has any vested right in the purchasing power of an individual or of the community, no court can confer upon him that right. The patronage or purchasing of goods depends on the whim of those who buy. A purchaser may decline to buy certain goods, for the most absurd reason or no reason, yet the person who has those goods to sell has no resource by which he can force the purchaser to buy them.

In illustration of this, witness the stock of goods which accumulate in every line of retail business, nothing wrong with the goods except that the whim of a passing fashion has decreed them out

of date and the purchaser looks for novelty, or, on the other hand, the purchaser may decline to buy the article in fashion and insist upon the indulgence of individual taste, thus greatly disappointing the retailer who would like to dispose of stock on hand. We digress this much to show how completely the purchasing power is vested in inclination.

In the case in point the boycott by the Hatters against the Loewe Co. did not result in fewer hats being purchased by the community; therefore we can not see how there was any restraint of trade. The boycott, if effective, merely diverted the purchasers to some other make of hats. The volume of trade was the same, though for certain reasons some manufacturers may have sold more hats than others. We fail to see that the Hatters did anything more than ordinary business competitors do when they try to divert business to themselves from other competitors by advertising. The Hatters tried to divert the hat business to the products of union labor. Since their boycott neither obstructed nor decreased the total volume of trade we fail to see how their action could be "a conspiracy in restraint of trade and commerce."

The Supreme Court in its decision specifically charges that the American Federation of Labor acting through its official organ and through its organizers declared a boycott.

THE COURT'S ERROR IN FACT.

The court is in error. The American Federation of Labor never endorsed or declared a boycott against the Loewe Co. In fact, no request for such action in any manner or form was ever made to the American Federation of Labor or its officers either directly or indirectly by the Hatters or any one else. The Loewe Co. was never published on the "We Don't Patronize" list of the American Federationist. We invite the inspection of the files of the American Federationist and of our office records in proof of this. We feel it our duty in the interest of truth and accuracy to call public attention to the error of the court in charging the American Federation of Labor with being a party to the action against the Loewe Co.

We can hardly believe that the Supreme Court itself realized the evil consequences which may follow this decision under its construction of the Sherman anti-trust law, a construction never intended by Congress.

It may be like the falling pebble which dislodges the avalanche, bringing ruin and destruction upon all in its path. Should this be the result it will follow from the nature and operation of the decision itself, not because of the protest of those affected.

We regard the members of the Supreme bench as upright and incorruptible. We believe that in any decision handed down each judge honestly and conscientiously gives the opinion which he believes to be correct. We do not agree with those who charge the court with being influenced by sinister motives, or under the domination of corporate influence.

But, while expressing our confidence in the integrity of the Supreme Court, we must also say that, being human, we do not consider it infallible in its judgments. We must accept them because, under our form of government, the Supreme Court is the highest legal tribunal. Right or wrong there is no appeal from its decision. It is true that this is the only country possessing such a tribunal, and it is a subject for serious speculation whether we might not do better under some other form of procedure; but such speculation is useless so far as the immediate future is concerned.

We are proud of the institutions of our country and try to uphold them with all our power, but we do protest against the assumption of law-making power by the courts. In assuming such functions they invade the sphere of the legislative and executive, which must necessarily result injuriously to the very fabric of our republic. Such action by the courts not being contemplated by the constitution there are no safeguards, no checks, as to what may be attempted. This assumption of power, even under the guise of construing existing law, is none the less dangerous, for the decision of the court then becomes a law without the people ever having had an opportunity to take any part in the making or rejecting of it.

We trust it will not be considered *lese majeste* if we say that in our opinion the Supreme Court in this and other recent decisions affecting labor tends to revert to medieval procedure rather than make the application of legal principles to present the industrial situation. The conditions with all their complications are here and not of our making. Why should our highest tribunal ignore them and plunge the people into confusion and distress?

However, it is not so wonderful that the court takes this attitude.

The life-long environment of the respected gentlemen who compose the Supreme bench has been such that they have not been brought into personal contact with industrial problems. On the contrary their associations have been largely with business and financial men and affairs. Naturally a man absorbs most of his point of view from his environment. It is quite understandable to us that justices of the Supreme Court should have little knowledge of modern industrial conditions and less sympathy

with the efforts of wage-workers to adapt themselves to the marvelous revolution which has taken place in industry in the past half century.

The language of the Hatters' decision makes it clear that the Supreme Court has not informed itself on modern economics. In its opinion the rights of hats seem to be greater than the rights of man. It seems to regard a hat as a sacred emblem of the rights of property, hence its protection is imperative. No effort, however, is made to protect the right of man to a fair return for his labor, and the opportunity to labor under the prevailing conditions. In fact, this decision goes to an unheard of length in punishing the workers for the exercise of their rights.

We regret exceedingly that this is so. While again expressing our belief in the integrity of the court, we yet are convinced that it is the duty of this high tribunal to inform itself of the great principles underlying the economic conditions of our time. Were its members to do this we believe they would perceive that a labor union can neither be a trust nor subject to trust laws. The decision refers to a book which seems to have suggested certain views. We would suggest that the members of the court read the chapter entitled "Some Equivocal Rights of Labor," from the book, "Moral Overstrain," by George W. Alger. It will disclose the difference between essential remedies to relieve wrongs and the academic (?) rights which avail the workers nothing. While the union is not specifically declared a trust under this application of the Sherman act, yet the Supreme Court construes, for the punishment of the unions, a law which was only intended to apply to illegal trusts. The wording of the law permits the penalty to attach whether the union is considered a trust, "or otherwise," so we can take our choice as to the nomenclature, but the penalties apply in any case.

From the fact that labor unions are declared punishable under trust penalties we feel that we should again point out how widely different is a labor union from a trust—for upon these vital and fundamental differences of the two are based the main reasons for our protest.

The labor union is not a trust; none of its achievements in behalf of its members—and society at large—can properly be confounded with the pernicious and selfish activities of the illegal trust. A trust, even at its best, is an organization of the few to monopolize the production and control the distribution of a material product of some kind. The voluntary association of the workers for mutual benefit and assistance is essentially different. Even if they seek to control the disposi-

tion of their labor power, it must be remembered that the power to labor is not a material commodity.

There can not be a trust in something which is not yet produced.

The human power to produce is the antithesis of the material commodities which become the subject of trust control.

From its very nature the labor union can not be regarded as a trust, yet the Supreme Court seems not to have considered this vital distinction in arriving at its decision.

Public opinion is practically unanimous in recognizing the union as one of the most essential means of securing for the workman his rights, protecting him against injustice, and putting him in touch with all the best thought and most advanced movements of ethical forces of civilization.

The aims and purposes of our labor movement have often been stated before but will bear brief restatement at this time when the attempt is being made in many directions to so cripple the activities of our unions that they may be shorn of their usefulness.

Our unions aim to improve the standard of life, to uproot ignorance and foster education, to instil character, manhood and independent spirit among our people; to bring about a recognition of the interdependence of man upon his fellow-man. We aim to establish a normal workday, to take the children from the factory and workshop and give them the opportunity of the school, the home and the playground. In a word, our unions strive to lighten toil, educate their members, make their homes more cheerful, and in every way contribute an earnest effort toward making life the better worth living. To achieve these praiseworthy ends we believe that all honorable and lawful means are both justifiable and commendable and should receive the sympathetic support of every right-thinking American.

If the workers are to be deprived of their opportunities for self-improvement and independence; if they are to be held at the will of the employer—and if this decision is enforced such might be the consequence—the industrial condition of our country would sink lower than that of slavery.

The slave owner was usually restrained from going to extremes in the treatment of his slaves by the fact that they represented property value to him, but if the industrial situation ensues, indicated by this court decision, the wage-workers would be more under the control of the unscrupulous employer than was the slave under his owner.

We do not believe that the conscience and sense of justice of a large majority

of employers will permit them to take advantage of the conditions possible under this decision. We believe that they and all good citizens will join with us in the earnest attempt to secure a remedy from Congress; but there is always the selfish, avaricious, conscienceless type of employer, and it gives us pause to think of the hardships and persecutions which such employers might inflict when their rapacity has the protection of a decree such as this recent one delivered by the Supreme Court.

At the time the Sherman anti-trust law was passed we warned our members and the public that it was so drawn that we feared a construction would be read into it so as to apply it to our unions instead of to the trusts which it was intended to restrain.

The event which we feared has come to pass. The law has long been admitted to be of no value in restraining or really punishing trusts. Useless as an instrument of good, it has now been made an instrument of positive mischief, and perverted from its original intent.

We know the Sherman law was intended by Congress to punish illegal trusts and not the labor unions, for we had various conferences with members of Congress while the Sherman act was pending, and remember clearly that such a determination was stated again and again.

The judges of the Supreme Court should be aware of this for the legislation has been enacted within their knowledge and memory. While not expecting infallibility on the part of the court, we do think it should acquire and act upon current information as to the intent of such an act as the Sherman anti-trust law.

We would have supposed that the debates upon this subject in Congress would have had some weight in assisting judicial interpretation of application of the law. It apparently did, but in a most misleading way. In this decision the court says that some effort was made when the Sherman act was pending in Congress to exclude organized labor and agricultural labor from its operation, but because such a clause was not made a specific part of the law the Supreme Court seems to find its justification for now applying it to organized labor.

We believe that this view of the case is not supported by the facts in connection with the history of the Sherman anti-trust law and the efforts made to amend it since its passage. We propose now to give this history at some length by quoting from the Congressional Record.

BRIEF HISTORY OF SHERMAN ACT.

The anti-trust bill was presented to the consideration of the Senate on Feb-

ruary 28, 1890. The text of the bill contained but three sections in strict reference to corporation business. The bill was brought up from time to time, by Senator Sherman, and it was just as often laid aside by other Senators. A substitute for the bill was introduced by the committee on finance on March 22d, 1890, and on March 25th it was moved by Senator Morgan to commit the bill to the judiciary committee. His motion failed at that time on a vote of 16 yeas, 28 nays. The discussion of the bill continued as it was reported by the finance committee and on the same day Senator Sherman offered a proviso at the end of the first section of the bill reported by the committee on finance. He said: "I take this proviso from the amendment proposed by the Senator from Mississippi, Mr. George. I do not think it necessary, but, at the same time, to avoid any confusion, I submit it to come in at the end of the first section."

Thus showing that Senator Sherman believed that the bill without the amendment excluded the laboring and agricultural organizations from the operation of the act. Indeed in conference he so expressed himself to the writer.

Amendment: "Provided that this act shall not be construed to apply to any arrangements, agreements, or combinations between the laborers, made with a view of lessening the number of hours of labor or the increasing of their wages; nor to any arrangements, agreements or combinations among persons engaged in horticulture or agriculture, made with a view of enhancing the price of agricultural or horticultural products."

Some discussion was had upon this amendment by Senators Plumb, Sherman, Ingalls, Teller, Turpee, Blair, and the word "their" was added between the words "of" and "own" in the last line of the amendment, so as to make it read, "the price of their own agricultural or horticultural products," and with this single addition, "the amendment was agreed to."

Discussions continued and on the following day, March 26th, Senator Stewart, of Nevada, said:

"The original bill has been very much improved and one of the great objections has been removed from it by the amendment offered by Senator Sherman, which relieves the class of persons who would have been first prosecuted under the original bill without the amendment. I am very much gratified that the Senator offered the amendment and that the Senate adopted it. The bill ought now in some respects to be satisfactory to every person who is opposed to the oppression of labor and desires to see it properly rewarded."

This amendment to the act was made while the Senate was sitting in committee of the whole.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill on March 27th, and when the amendment just referred to was reached, Senator Sherman arose and said: "That is an amendment offered by the Senator from Rhode Island, Mr. Aldrich, and I call the attention of the Senate to it. In my judgment this amendment practically fritters away the substantial elements of this bill." Senator Blair corrected Senator Sherman and told him that the amendment referred to was the one offered by himself and not by the Senator from Rhode Island.

A discussion followed, in which Senator Edmonds of Vermont participated. He opposed the amendment, out in the course of his remarks said:

"Well, here we are! I do not blame the farmers of the United States at all. On the contrary, I support them when everybody is turned against their interests in organizing themselves to defend them. But if capital and manufacturing industries begin to regulate, to repress and diminish below what it ought to be, the price of all labor everywhere that is engaged in that kind of business, labor must organize to defend itself."

Senator Hoar of Massachusetts followed Senator Edmonds in the discussion upon this amendment as it offered to protect labor:

I wish to state in one single sentence my opinion in regard to this particular provision. The Senator from Vermont thinks that the applying to laborers in this respect a principle which was not applied to persons engaged in the large commercial transactions which are chiefly affected by this bill, was indefensible in principle. Now, it seems to me that there is a very broad distinction, which, if borne in mind, will warrant not only this exception to the provisions of the bill, but a great deal of other legislation which we enact or attempt to enact relating to the matter of labor. When you are providing to regulate the transactions of men who are making corners in wheat, iron, and other products, speculating or when they are lawfully dealing with them without speculation, you are aiming at a mere commercial transaction, the beginning and the end of which is the making of money for the parties and nothing else. That is the only relation that transaction has to the state, but is the creation or division of much of the ownership of the wealth of the community, but when the laborer is trying to raise his wages, or is endeavoring to shorten the hours of his labor, he is dealing with something that touches closely, more closely than anything else, the government and the char-

acter of the state itself. The laborer who is engaged lawfully and usefully and accomplishes his purpose in whole or in part, endeavoring to raise the standard of wages is engaged in the occupation, the success of which makes republican government itself possible, and without which the republic can not, in substance, however it may not only do in formation, continue to exist.

I hold, therefore, that as legislators, we may constitutionally, properly, and wisely allow laborers to make associations, combinations, contracts, agreements for the sake of maintaining in advance their wages in regard to which, as a rule, their contracts are to be made with large corporations who are themselves but an association or combination of capital on the other side. When we are promoting and even encouraging that, we are promoting and encouraging what is not only lawful, wise, and profitable, but absolutely essential to the existence of the commonwealth itself.

Further discussion followed and Senator Walthal, of Mississippi, moved to refer the bill and the amendment to the committee on the judiciary, with instructions to report within 20 days, which carried by a vote of 31 yeas, 28 nays.

On April 2d the bill was reported out by the committee on the judiciary, but the amendment agreed to in committee of the whole was not included.

Though at the time we doubted the wisdom of that amendment being omitted, we were assured by several that under the reconstructed bill, labor and agricultural organization were not included.

On April 8th the bill passed the Senate as reported by the committee on the judiciary by a vote of 52 yeas, 1 nay. It passed the House on June 21, 1890, and was approved July 2, 1890.

In the 56th Congress, a bill was introduced known as H. R. 10,539, intended to amend the Sherman anti-trust law. During its consideration by the house committee on the judiciary representatives of the American Federation of Labor requested the adoption of the following amendment:

"Nothing in this act shall be so construed as to apply to trade unions or other labor organizations organized for the purpose of regulating wages, hours of labor, or other conditions under which labor is to be performed."

The committee declined to accept this amendment, but when the bill was reported to the House, Representative Terry made the motion to adopt the amendment, which was agreed to, and the bill as amended passed the House by a vote of 259 yeas and 9 nays.

The bill then went to the Senate but no action was taken, therefore it died on the expiration of that Congress.

Yet no one will pretend to say that both these quoted provisions excluding labor from the operation of the law were not the expression of the separate judgment of the Senate and of the House of Representatives though not jointly enacted.

Does not this brief review of the history of legislation upon the subject of the Sherman act clearly indicate what Congress had in mind when it enacted this legislation? And yet the Supreme Court assumes that because both Houses did not jointly adopt a specific provision excluding the labor organizations from the operations of anti-trust laws, therefore they were included.

We must protest against the penalizing of the labor unions under the carelessly worded provisions of an anti-trust law; which we understand since the court's decision has resulted in the grand jury of New Orleans indicting 72 workmen under its provisions, while at the same time the most vicious and rapacious trusts flourish and wax great upon the "restraint of trade and commerce" which they are able to exert, yet not all the machinery of our government or of courts seems adequate to bring these real trust offenders to the place where the Sherman anti-trust law really applies to them. In the confusion caused by this misapplication of the Sherman law to the labor unions the illegal and vicious trusts are likely to still further escape punishment. Thus they may profit by the injustice done to labor.

The trend of legislation in civilized countries, including our own, has been to remove the associated efforts of the wage-earners for their mutual and common protection from the ban of conspiracy or the implication that they are in unlawful restraint of trade. As a matter of fact acts and laws have been passed by other countries and in our own specifically declaring that the organizations of workmen instituted for the purpose of regulating hours of labor and other conditions of employment and increasing wages were not to be held as conspiracies or organizations in restraint of trade.

CONGRESSIONAL RELIEF IMPERATIVE.

We expect that the present Congress will take prompt action to so amend or modify the Sherman law that there can be no question as to its application. We shall ask such enactment restoring the rights of unions and agricultural associations so that the association of human beings for education and progress may never again be confounded with the sordid and material activities of trusts. We believe that the people as a whole will be with us in this effort.

And even should Congress grant the desired relief in this case we shall still advise the utmost political activity on

the part of our workers and friends. This decision has shown us the necessity of eternal vigilance.

It is well that Congress is in session at the time this decision is handed down for we can now make our appeal directly to it for relief. We confidently expect that Congress will appreciate the injustice which has been done directly to the workers and hence indirectly to all the people. We believe that Congress will understand how important a portion of the body politic is comprised by the workers and will grant us the attention and prompt action which the injury merits. Congress must of necessity declare itself either for or against us at this time and should it fail to heed our request for justice we shall at once appeal to all the people to help us right our wrongs by electing representatives pledged to the interests of the people.

Already some bills have been introduced seeking to amend the Sherman law. When a bill has been perfected which will remedy the injustice done to labor by the recent court decision, it will be presented to Congress for consideration and every effort made to press it to passage.

Instead of being disheartened by this decision of the Supreme Court, our labor forces will only be cemented the more closely by the danger which threatens.

This decision will mean a greater awakening for labor than ever before. In fact we feel assured that the people as a whole will join with us in securing representatives in Congress who will really represent the industrial, political, material interests of the masses. This work of safeguarding the interests and moral welfare of the workers and of all the people has already begun. It will be carried on with greater vigor since this decision shows the necessity of our being able, firmly, clearly, and fully represented in Congress so that it will be impossible for the Supreme Court in future to ignore or misunderstand.

Our fellow-workers and the people as a whole will unite industrially and politically for the safeguarding and protecting of their interests. All need a more widespread knowledge of economic conditions and the trend of modern industry. In this effort we shall have the appreciation and assistance of all our people.

Another thing must not be forgotten. The union is a necessary and inevitable outgrowth of our modern industrial condition. To deny the union the exercise of its normal activities for the protection and advancement of its members and the advancement of society in general is to do a great injury to all the people.

This repression of right and natural activities is bound to finally break forth in violent form of protest, especially among the more ignorant of the people who, if

penalized, as they may be under this decree, will feel great bitterness that they are deprived of the opportunity to improve their conditions by voluntary association.

The work and methods of the trade unions and labor organizations are, by the very nature of their large numbers, an open book.

LABOR NOT DISHEARTENED.

All men may know the actions and the doings of the labor unions. The loyal labor papers publish broadcast the aims and progress of the labor movement. The unions appeal to the intelligence, the character, the manhood, the patriotism, and the humanity of the workers and our fellow-man for sympathetic and helpful co-operation. Do the opponents of labor organizations imagine that they can crush the spirit and independence of the men of labor?

Can they imagine themselves in the "Fool's Paradise" where they have succeeded in eliminating the organizations of labor from our public life and body politic, these unions which have done so much to protect and promote the rights and interest and well being of the American workman? It is inconceivable, but were it at all possible and the organizations of labor driven out of existence, what then?

Does any one imagine that America's workers will submit to the injustice, the greed, and rapacity of unchecked corporate wealth without some form of resistance?

Kill the trade and labor unions of America; drive them out of existence by legislation and court decrees, and then each worker will be an irresponsible person, without association with his fellows, without opportunity for consultation, and without the constructive influence which open organization gives. Then will he seek his own redress in his own way.

Is such a chaotic condition desirable or preferable to the normal, rational, intelligent, peaceful organizations of labor of our time? We opine not. Such a condition must not and will not transpire.

The American labor movement is founded upon the inherent principles of justice and right. Its men are loyal—as loyal to the institutions of our republic as can be found in any walk of life. The unions of labor have done so much for the material, moral, and social uplift of the toilers, that they are indelibly impressed upon the hearts and minds, not only of the workers themselves, but of every earnest, intelligent, liberty-loving, fair-minded citizen of our country.

The unions of labor will live. They can not be—they must not be—they will not be driven out of existence. Labor demands relief at the hands of Congress; demands it NOW.

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITIES

In the United States and Workmens' Compensation in Foreign Countries.

THE legal liability of employers for injuries to their employees, in the United States and a "Summary of the workmen's compensation acts of foreign countries," are the subjects of articles in Bulletin No. 74 of the Bureau of Labor, of the Department of Commerce and Labor.

In the first article Lindley D. Clark discusses at length the more important principle of the common law as generally applied to the subject of employers' liability in this country, together with such variations as appear in certain states. The article also reproduces the laws of those states which have passed enactments on the subject, and presents the construction put thereon where they have been reviewed by the superior state courts or the federal courts.

The impossibility of adequately securing to the workman the needed protection by a mere grant of right of action for injuries for which the employer can rightly be charged is only too evident from the discussion of the principles of law applicable.

In striking contrast with conditions in the United States is the position of the foreign workman who is injured by accident in the course of his employment. Practically every foreign country of any importance industrially has by legislation recognized the principle that the workman is entitled to compensation for injuries from accidents received in the course of his employment. Twenty-two foreign states have enacted such legislation, namely:

Austria, Belgium, British Columbia, Cape of Good Hope, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Queensland, Russia, South Australia, Spain, Sweden, Western Australia.

While there is some variation in the provisions of the foreign laws as to the circumstances under which workmen are entitled to compensation, as a rule compensation is not payable unless the injury causes disablement for a specified number of days or weeks.

The employer may usually be relieved from the payment of compensation if he can prove that the injury was caused intentionally or by willful misconduct, or, in some countries, by the gross negligence of the injured person or during the performance of an illegal act. In none of these twenty-two countries does ordinary negligence on the part of the injured

employee work a forfeiture of the right to compensation.

The industries usually covered by the laws are manufacturing, mining and quarrying, transportation, building and engineering work, and other employments involving more or less hazard. In Belgium, France and Great Britain the laws apply to practically all employments. In a considerable number of countries only workmen engaged in actual manual work, and in some cases those exposed to the same risks, such as overseers and technical experts, come within the operations of the law. These countries are Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Spain and Sweden. On the other hand, in France, Great Britain, the British colonies and Hungary the laws apply to salaried employees and workmen equally. Overseers and technical experts earning more than a prescribed amount are excluded in Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Luxemburg, and Russia. Employees of the state, provincial and local administrations usually come within the provisions of the acts.

The entire burden rests upon the employer in all but four of the countries, Austria, Germany, Hungary and Luxemburg, where the employees also bear a part of the expense. The laws in every case fix the compensation to be paid. In all the countries but Sweden the compensation is based upon the wages of the injured person. It consists of medical and surgical treatment and of periodical allowances for temporary disability, and annual pensions or lump sum payments for permanent disability or death.

In most countries employers may contract with state or private insurance institutions for the transfer of the burden of payment of compensation. In a number of countries such transfer is obligatory. Provision is usually made for the protection of the beneficiaries in case of insolvency of employers.

The acts of nearly all of the countries are framed with the view of obviating the necessity for instituting legal proceedings. The laws are so specific with regard to the compensation allowed and the regulations for its payment that agreements are usually amicably made between the employers and the victims of the accidents. If disputes arise, however, the law specifies the necessary procedure for their settlement either by special arbitration tribunals or by the ordinary law courts.

FOR JUSTICE.

PETER W. COLLINS.

Without the city gates he stood,
A youth born of the yesterday,
The glamour of the scene within
Disturbed him not;
He came to stay.

Determined was his mien,—
The knight of old was there,—
The battles of his fellowman:
The cause for which they stood,
Was his to share.

No thought of self, or gain,
Or longing for the things of life had he,
His heart and mind were set
Upon a greater destiny.

To give to humankind his all,
And share with them in struggles for the right,
That justice in the day to come
Would triumph over might.

EDITORIAL.

PETER W. COLLINS.

TO OUR MEMBERSHIP.

We regret that it is necessary at this time to call to the attention of the members of the Brotherhood, through the columns of the *WORKER*, the fact that an effort is being made by a few selfish men styling themselves members, to embarrass the I. B. E. W. and interfere with its progress as an organization for the uplift and protection of the workers of our craft throughout this country and Canada. This effort, though seemingly a disinterested one, is the result of months of scheming and plotting and is being engineered by men who have in the past held official position in locals of the I. B. Circular letters of scurrilous nature, some with name attached and others without, have been sent, and others are to follow for the purpose of injuring the Brotherhood, its credit and its reputation. An effort is being made by some of these so-called members to have the second class mailing privilege of the *ELECTRICAL WORKER* taken away. Their purpose being to stop, if possible, publication of the *WORKER*, for it would cost for mailing at third class rates some few thousand dollars a year more than at present. We assure these individuals that the publication of the *WORKER* will continue and each member of the I. B. will be apprised of the names of the parties interested in the very near future.

This journal is entitled to second class mailing privileges and has always enjoyed same, and we will continue to fight for our rights to the last ditch, irrespective of the effort that is being made by these so-called members to deprive us of them.

We believe that no honorable man or men would stoop to the methods that have been used to injure our organization and abet our enemies, and we regret that it is necessary to call the attention of the rank and file to this miserable conspiracy,—for it is nothing less. Our duty to ourselves and the organization which has honored us with its confidence makes it necessary that these facts be made known.

We don't propose to see the organization disrupted or brought into disrepute, and, God willing, we shall continue to protect its interests from enemies from without and within.

PARASITES.

Men are oftentimes prone to criticise and be overcritical in their observations rather than commendatory, and the following editorial from the *Boiler Makers' Journal* very forcibly and logically defines the position of those who love criticism as a means of harassment rather than of assistance:

"In this issue of the journal is a letter from a loyal brother who exposes the smallness of some of our members and shows to what extremes men will go to get revenge or "do" a fellow-man because of some fancied grievance. We do not mean to say that every man should agree with every other man on every subject, or that because he does not agree with the other man that he should not be allowed to express his opinion, but we do mean to say that because a member disagrees with an officer or brother member he should be man enough to express himself without resorting to vile circulars or scurrilous letters, and if the member in question has a spark of manhood left he will desist in this manner of fighting and come out in the open.

"Unfortunately, though, for humanity, men are born who haven't enough intelligence to express themselves in a serious manner and do it politely. They seem to think the more vulgarity they can work into their language the more expressive it becomes and so when they run out of common sense argument they resort to the Billingsgate referred to by the brother, and as a result there is a lot of noise, but no one is hurt for they are the fireworks of the human race and we all know what becomes of the explosives in the next world.

"This organization, like a great many others, is infested with a few members who become imbued with the idea that every official is dishonest and that every dollar paid out has a percentage rakeoff attached somewhere. They utterly fail to realize that expense is necessary and that the expense has to be met.

"They let this idea grow on them until they have no other word of cheer or respect for the officer who toils each day for their good and welfare. Sometimes they become so acrimonious that they actually sour trying to eke out an existence as a man.

"Sometimes their ailment goes out in another form. They get the notion that they are the only ones who run the organization as it should be done and that notion grows on them until they can scarcely sleep because of it. They fail to convince the members at large of this fact and as a last resort they try to disrupt the Brotherhood by seceding or organizing a dual order.

"This organization has had experience of that kind, and others have gone through the same experiences, but, thanks to the intelligence of the membership at large, these members never get very far."

Unfortunately there are many men in the labor movement to whom this particular editorial can apply with force, and while we regret that the movement is so burdened we believe that by a consistent effort on the part of the trade unionists these characters can be eliminated and their power for evil destroyed. Perfection does not exist among men and it is only by the exercise of good judgment and by co-operation that results are obtained. But the specimen who believes in destroying rather than building up deserves no place in a movement which is purely constructive. Labor in its essence represents the highest type of co-operation.

WHAT IS SUCCESS?

Your intention may be the best, but intention alone won't win success. Effort wins. Well directed, persistent effort, with the stamina behind it, real, uncompromising stamina.

Sand is a good name for it, and, in fact, is more expressive than polished phrases, but it must be real sand, coupled with the ability to appreciate and take advantage of opportunities.

Most men are asleep at the switch when opportunity is near; each one of us has at least some talent that deserves attention and application. That's just the word—application.

It is of mighty little moment or value to you to possess talents; to know you possess them and yet to neglect to make them do service.

You often wonder why the supposedly inefficient in mental equipment succeed and make their mark while you, with your many talents, are standing still.

There must be a reason why men succeed. There is a reason. They make success possible by their own effort. Luck plays a small part in the real drama of success.

He who applied his single talent well won success. You with your many talents fail. Why?

Not luck. Not better opportunities, but sand, vigor, persistency, well directed, conscientious effort—work.

Give the matter a little thought, study it out and see if it won't be profitable. Don't deal in platitudes. Don't dream and plan imaginary conquests. Go after the possibilities and make them actualities.

Many men are imbued with the idea that their success depends upon the failure of others, and to make that success possible they use their ingenuity to the injury of their fellows.

This is a selfish, unjust and unfair attitude and cannot be justified by any law—natural or moral.

We recognize the fact that in the competition of life the road to success is fraught with obstacles and the path is far from rosy. The struggle is indeed great in the attainment of the goal; but we cannot conceive that a sound mind would reason that real permanent success depends on the retardation and failure of another. There are, however, many who reason otherwise, who are always trying to gain at the expense of others. Yet even when such characters do have success it is not real success. It is not the success that stands on integrity, on honest effort, and on *character*. Men must be blind to their own future who deceive themselves into such a belief. And yet the fact remains that such men do exist. How they *get by* is the surprising thing.

Real, honest effort is the effort that counts. Our self-interest should not lead us into selfishness. Self-interest is not selfishness, but selfish men, too often make it such.

We admire the man who enters the struggle of life with the determination to win, and invariably he does win.

His success is the result of effort, real effort and a constructive mind, not a destructive one.

The fight for success is a continuous struggle. Many are handicapped and few are favored. The field is an open one and in the test character and persistency count.

But a fair field should be a square field. We hope, therefore, that the day is not far distant when all men will realize that permanent success is not founded on the failure of their fellow-men, but that co-operation and justice are the beacons that lead the way.

CHARACTER BUILDING.

To what you are and what you hope to be you owe, not to your ambition, but to character, an invaluable asset that makes men *men* and by which you must be

judged: meeting the standard or found wanting.

Are *you* giving *your* best effort to the upbuilding of character? If so, your effort will repay you handsomely and your success will be assured. Men too often sacrifice for the passing pleasure opportunities to make themselves *better men*.

They sometimes forget that in the making of *real* men character is *the* essential. What a pity it is that such opportunities are lost.

What a pity it is that so many lack real stamina, determination. The determination to be right is what counts, and on the sincerity of that determination depends the making of the man.

PUBLIC • INTEREST.

Upon the degree of interest which the people take in the affairs of their government depend the efficiency, stability and permanency of that government.

A realization of the duties of citizenship and its obligations are a part of a man's work.

Civic duty is morally obligatory upon each citizen. To give his best thought and effort in sustaining civic duty is imperative alike on the citizen in private life as upon the public official.

Such duty should not be neglected, for by its neglect the foundations of republican government become less secure.

It is an excellent thing to talk of rights, the inalienable rights that are ours and which we protect with all means within our power.

But how inconsistent it is to harp on rights continually, to resent the least infringement of them, and yet ignore civic duty which makes the permanency of rights possible.

We believe that the man who talks rights is doing some good, but we also believe that he who couples with his discussion of rights the discussion of the obligations of duty, is doing a greater and a better work.

Philosophizing is excellent mental exercise. It broadens the imagination and gives solace to the phantasies of the mind, but unless it is combined with the practical and with the actual it has no further function.

The practical things of life are worth heeding. We come in personal contact with them and we must be practical in our treatment of them.

Theory enlarges vision, but practice gives stability to judgment, and makes possible our familiarity with the things we should know. A practical man recognizes the necessity of attention to duty. He possesses an inherent knowledge of rights and will not allow an infringement of them. He looks to duty to protect those rights and he knows that the failure to do his duty makes possible the jeopardizing of his rights.

Appeal L. U. No. 5 in Stewart Hemphill case sustained, 3552 to 422.

Referendum returns on constitutional amendments held pending decision on their constitutionality.

NOTICE.

A special meeting of the E. B. will be held at the G. O. July 15, 1908.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Deception never helps reputation.

The ingenuity of some men is their nemesis.

Criticism is poor "bread upon the waters."

Sophistry is a poor substitute for common sense.

Be just in your dealings with others if you expect justice.

The *Rule* or *Ruin* slogan is the ammunition of little minds.

The music of the band wagon has made many a patriot a piker.

The success of effort depends greatly on the conviction of its success.

Work and live in the present; look to the future and be guided by the past.

The greater attention some men get, the less their power for doing good.

If you know of an evil, offer a remedy, but don't let imagination sway your judgment.

Slander is a mighty mean weapon with which to gain popularity; it invariably reacts.

Don't compromise principle to gain popularity; your self respect is worth more to you than all the applause you can receive.

Animus or bias should never usurp reason.

Even in Franklin's day men had axes to grind.

Abuse has never added to the glory of the abuser.

The breadth of a little mind is limited to its own opinions.

Fame has a peculiar habit of sidestepping reception committees.

The tricky character who considers himself smart invariably gets *his*.

Keep a sharp eye on the *gent* who is always commenting on his neighbor's failings.

Don't let ridicule usurp the functions of argument or hearsay that of judgment.

Personal gain at the expense of character is mighty poor compensation for the exchange.

Always put forth your best effort; half-heartedness can never be the inspiration for success.

Wisdom may be the dean of the mental corps, but simplicity has the call on contentment.

The ease with which the *Con Man* succeeds these days is a fair indication that the germ is prevalent.

Men who never make mistakes, never *progress*; this does not justify the mistakes but it does endeavor.

A small mind invariably allows the belief in its own greatness to interfere with its acquisition of knowledge.

A good fellow seldom has strong convictions or opinions; he lowers his own estimate of himself in seeking to raise that of others.

Indifference is the seed of failure.

The way to strengthen character is to add to it.

Intelligent opinion is the result of intelligent thought.

The best assurance that a man is right is when *he acts right*.

When hypocrites meet hypocrites the love feast is on.

You are judged by what you do, not by what other think you should do.

A liberal application of tact would save many men from their own follies.

Good judgment is the result of impartial consideration of any proposition.

Some lights would give greater illumination if they were "under a bushel."

If you are a natural "knocker" try it on some one who knows you—and the symptoms.

Good advice should be appreciated but should never be the cloak for unfair criticism.

It is waste of time trying to convince the man who has convinced himself he won't be convinced.

Don't accept any statement as truth, no matter how plausible it sounds, unless *you* have verified it.

Noise is not argument and slander is not logic, though to many these distinctions are not noticeable.

A determination to follow your convictions without fear or favor strengthens character and adds to ability.

Noise has little value in the determination of any issue of consequence; common sense and good judgment are greater factors.

The moral make-up of a man is as essential as his mental makeup; for a sound mind cannot be built on an insecure foundation.

Some men believe they get results by telling others how to get them. We believe that results come to those who go after them.

A reasonable man seldom finds time to argue on the "*inconsistency of human nature*;" he treats the argument presented on its merits.

It is hardly to be expected that a narrow mind will reason impartially.

Dreaming is excellent mental exercise, but when it becomes a habit it is time to wake up.

We all make mistakes, but don't let that worry or discourage you; the perfect man has not as yet appeared.

Never be sensitive about asking questions; if you need information go after it, and you become the gainer thereby.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S NOTES.

IF a member in arrears wants to be reinstated, see to it that he pays up to date.

* * *

THIS is absolutely essential for the protection of the traveling brother's record.

* * *

THE member's record at the G. O. is his surest protection. See that it is kept right.

* * *

DON'T neglect to paste a due stamp in the book of the member month he pays.

* * *

BE careful about accepting applications for membership unless they are investigated.

* * *

PREPARE your sheets with care and don't carry them in your pocket. Mail them to the G. O.

* * *

WHEN a brother takes a T. C., the F. S. should remit at once to the G. O. per capita for the life of the T. C.

* * *

THE G. O. gives the exact record as it appears on the books and each member owes it to himself to see that his record is a clear one.

* * *

YOU owe it to yourself and your L. U. to do your duty as you see it, and not as some one else sees it. You are the one who is responsible, not some one else.

* * *

THE F. S. should see to it that notice of change of officers is sent to the G. O. This makes a correct directory possible and avoids delays to members writing L. U.'s.

ARTICLES of merit are appreciated and we welcome them for publication.

* * *

DON'T let hypocrisy get into your life.

* * *

IF you have a good idea send it along.

* * *

REPORT all withdrawal cards to G. O. when issued.

* * *

MOTTO'S to be serviceable must be practicable.

* * *

CORRECT all mistakes and then guard against others.

* * *

IF you need advice, ask for it and use it to advantage.

* * *

THE T. C. should be made out carefully and clearly.

* * *

BE an optimist and look at the bright side of things.

* * *

IF the member with a grouch approaches make him forget it.

* * *

SEND your sheets on time each month and protect the standing of members.

* * *

WE would be pleased to receive suggestions for insertion in these columns each month.

* * *

NOTICE that all F. S. and Treas. were bonded on Blanket Bond has appeared previously in the WORKER and as the Constitution requires said bonding, L. U.'s should remit when bill is forwarded.

CLEAN and correct records are the best recommendation of the exercise of care.

WHEN reinstating members in arrears full per capita to date must be sent to the G. O. Some F. S.'s have raised objection to this part of the constitution, claiming they have the right to remit what the member pays them. When the member is not in arrears this is all right. If a member in arrears was to pay part dues to the F. S. and only part per capita was sent to the G. O., the member would be continuously in arrears.

IT IS a protection to the member.

IT IS an unpleasant duty to reject death claims, but the constitution is very clear on this subject. When a claim is illegal it cannot be paid.

WHEN claims are legal and all papers accompany the claim, check is sent day claim is received.

MANY members blame the G. O. when a claim is rejected. Occasionally a claim is rejected which shows the member in arrears on account of negligence on the part of the F. S. But the F. S. must find a scapegoat and the G. O. is blamed for the rejection.

THE F. S. *must* remit per capita paid him each month, not every three or four. A member *must* pay dues every month, not every three or four.

IF A member pays his dues every three months he is taking a chance of going in arrears.

PAY every month and see that the F. S. remits to the G. O. His duplicate sheet will show whether or not he sent per capita on you. Ask to see it each month.

IF YOU owe April, May and June, pay up and then see that the F. S. remits same to G. O. before the first of July. If it is in the mails after June 30 your record will show in arrears.

FOR instance, you fail to pay April, May and June until July 1 and the F. S. get your remittance in the mails

on July 1, your record will show you paid the G. O. April, May and June on July 1.

NOW if you pay the F. S. on June 29, and he fails to get it in the mail before July 1, your record will show in arrears.

THEREFORE pay each month or pay in time to get your remittance in the mail. We give credit date mailed as being in G. O. in time to protect your record.

THE F. S. may be negligent or you may be negligent. We don't place the responsibility. Our duty is to make the record.

WE regret that many times an injustice is done members through the negligence of the F. S. But we don't appoint the F. S. You elect him, and its up to you to see that both you and he do your duty.

OUR experience has been that the F. S. invariably tries to do his duty. Occasionally a mistake is made.

THE F. S. has a tedious, thankless job and each member ought to assist him all the time.

THE F. S. should study the constitution carefully and familiarize himself with its provisions.

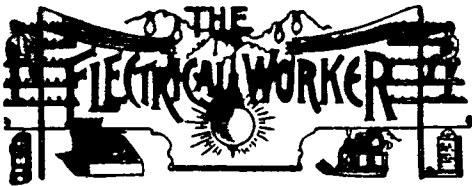
MANY Secretaries have returned the bill sent for bonding the officers of the G. O. Some wanted information, others said they were bonded outside the G. O. Section 1 of Article 24 requires that they be bonded on blanket bond through the G. O. Notice to this effect previously appeared in these columns.

AS the positions are bonded, no extra charge is made when officers are changed.

KEEP us advised as to any changes of addresses or of officers, etc.

ACCEPT advice; don't be particular about applying it.

BE frank in all your dealings.



**Official Journal of the
INTERNATIONAL
Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Published Monthly.**

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Pierik Building, Springfield, Illinois.

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Subscription, \$1.00 per year, in advance.

As The Electrical Worker reaches the men who do the work and recommend or order the material, its value as an advertising medium can be readily appreciated.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL. MAY, 1908

Advertising rates may be secured by writing to the Editor.

This Journal will not be held responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

The first of each month is the closing date; all copy must be in our hands on or before.

The H. W. Rokker Co., Springfield.

INFORMATION.

Ellis William Jones, communicate with your sister, Florence E. Jones, 9 Girard Ave., East Orange, N. J., and hear something for your benefit.

Yours fraternally,

J. A. GROVES.

If Chas. Gourley sees this he may learn news of interest by writing to his mother or Fred Miner, of 39 Grand St., Albany, N. Y.

As to the whereabouts of Frank Whalen, a lineman; last heard from was Waco, Texas. His brother, J. Whalen, of 284 Clarkson St., Brooklyn, N. Y., has news of importance for him.

Any one knowing the whereabouts of Jim Upton, a lineman, last heard from at Wallas, Idaho, July 20, 1907, will confer a favor by communicating with Fred Danz, 1400 Grand Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

Any one knowing the whereabouts of Bro. Frank Lee, please write to his brother, Jas. P. Lee, 996 West Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

Would like information as to the whereabouts of Bro. Ray Kinney, Louie Clements, Fitzgerald, C. J. Mooney, Frank McDonald, Art Crawford, Morris Donahue, Denny McManus, Mike Battles, George Hardy, Brocky Brooks, Bud Harlowe, Brewster and Bill Handback. Indianapolis is lonesome, so would like to hear from some of our old boys.

TOM BARRETT AND FAMILY,
2405 Prospect St.

Any one knowing the whereabouts of B. L. Boone, or should he see this himself, will please write to T. P. Mosso, Box 635, Spokane, Wash., and oblige.

T. P. Mosso,
Fin. Sec.

Bro. W. A. Nash, 501 Frisco Street, Oklahoma City, Okla., would like to hear from Bro. O. J. Hays, as he needs his assistance in a little matter.

Lost—Due Book No. 110049, issued by Local No. 418, Pasadena, Cal., to L. H. Preston. If presented to any Local or brother, please take up and forward to Geo. Corrin, Fin. Sec'y, Pasadena, Cal.,

If Bro. M. B. Connery of No. 155 should see this and will write Bro. C. G. Foot, in care of the Light company or Financial Secretary W. A. Nash, he can find out something that will be of benefit to him.

If J. Boughn sees this, please write to C. C. Lyon, 474 Wabash Ave., Detroit, Mich.

Bro. Ed. Hurley or any one knowing his address, please write to W. Goree, care the Ligt Co., Oklahoma City, Okla.

Any one knowing whereabouts of Geo. Gulliver, last heard of in Utica, N. Y., advise D. T. (Ginger) Nolan, 292 West 1st street, Corning, N. Y.

If any one should find a Due Book and D. C. Card of Bro. E. Diviney, Card No. 207624, please take up and send to W. Honbeck, Financial Secretary Local 242, Decatur, Ill.

If any knows of Bro. Ed. Hilton or should see this, please notify Local No. 242, Decatur, Ill.

W. HONBECK,
Financial Secretary.

Linemen! Keep away from Pittsburg, Pa., as the strike against the Allegheny County and Duquesne Light Companies is still on, and there is absolutely nothing doing in this district. In Pittsburg alone we have fifty men loafing. Will notify you through WORKER when trouble is settled.

J. A. GROVES.

If Bro. Jack Hazleton should see this and communicate with me, he will receive valuable information.

Respectfully,

EDGAR S. HURLEY,
Business Agent of L. U. 537.
15th & Mission, Roesch Bldg.

All brothers who owe Jacob Schwartz for board or other bills will save themselves exposure in this journal if they will communicate with me or Mr. Schwartz at once. Failure on your part to attend to this will be sufficient cause for me to have your name published in next month's WORKER. Trusting you to attend to this at once, I beg to remain

Fraternally yours,

EDGAR S. HURLEY,
Business Agent of L. U. 537.
15th & Mission, Roesch Bldg.

Any one knowing the whereabouts of Bro. F. A. Hansen will confer a favor on Local Union No. 125 by such notification. Bro. Hansen, whose card number is 58726, has discredited his organization by jumping a board bill of \$20.00 and overlooking a few other loans and accommodations. While acting in the capacity as agent for the Local he collected initiation fees and

dues amounting to \$18.00, which in his haste he neglected to turn over. Bro. Hansen had up to the present time aided us materially, and it is too bad that he should now forget his obligation to the Brotherhood. Notify W. S. Junkin, F. S. 725, 110 E. Webster St., Portland, Ore.

NOTICE.

To all Members of the I. B. E. W.:

That the Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone Co., operating in the state of Montana, Idaho, Wyoming and Utah, is unfair to the Electrical Workers and all organized labor.

J. R. CURRIE, President,
Inter-Mountain District Council.

Notice to all brothers and Locals, especially in West, be on lookout for one J. Steele, who has been scabbing for Missouri & Kansas Tel. Co. in Fulton, Mo. Steele left Fulton, intending to go to Seattle, Wash. He is a young fellow, height about 5 feet 4 inches, weight about 125 pounds, and walks with a tough swagger. By order of F. S. L. U. No. 365.

Notice is hereby given that L. U. 317, Portland, Ore., is in recognized difficulty. All the contractors of that city, with the exception of two firms, have locked out all of our members in an endeavor to force open shop.

(Signed)

J. L. Cook,
S. T., Pac. D. C.

I wish to notify you at this time that Local 317, of Portland, Ore., is in recognized difficulty. All the contractors of that city, with the exception of two firms, having locked our members out in an endeavor to force the open shop. This notification is being given so as to bring 317 within the protection of the clause of the Constitution relating to the acceptance of traveling cards.

J. L. Cook,
Sec.-Treas Pac. D. C.

Lost, Due Book No. 213606, issued to Edward Nelson, stamped up to July 1. Any information regarding this book will be greatly appreciated by Local 587. Address H. J. Trotter, R. S. 587, 548 W. 9th St., Fremont, Neb.

I write to inform you that Bro. Wm. Price has lost his due book. His number is 150729. Please mention same in the WORKER.

Fraternally,

JOHN E. REIS.
720 Wade St., Cincinnati, O.

REPORT ON TELEPHONE CONTROVERSY.

The Montana Federation of Labor, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

To the Officers and Members of all Local Unions Affiliated with the Montana Federation of Labor, and the I. B. E. W. Unions in the Inter-Mountain District—Greeting:

BROTHERS: Believing that you are all anxious and expecting some word from your officers as to the status of the present controversy between the Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone Co, and our unions, we beg to submit the following:

If in submitting this report we should touch upon matters which our enemies might endeavor to construe to be against the rulings which the court in its recent injunction order prohibiting us from in any manner using the name of the above mentioned company, or in issuing orders to our members, and perhaps thoughtlessly attempting to cause us inconvenience by having us cited before the court for an alleged violation of the court's orders, we would request them before doing so to investigate the cause which makes us submit this report.

The following telegram was received on Feb. 27, 1908, from Salt Lake City:

Mr. Alex. Fairgrieve, President, Montana Federation of Labor, Helena, Montana.

Meet me in Salt Lake City on important business; Knutsford Hotel; my expense. When will you be here? Confidential. Answer. J. W. NORTHRUP.

I consulted with Secretary Smith whether or not to pay any attention to this telegram, as the name signed to it was not any person whom either of us knew, and we concluded that it would be advisable to telegraph Bro. Donoghue, at Butte, to notify Bros. Sullivan, Medhurst, Bigelow, and the other members of the Executive Board of the Federation to meet me in Butte that evening on important business.

On arriving in Butte I showed the telegram to the brothers and we concluded it would be advisable to comply with its request, as we had been informed that the officers of the Bell Telephone company in Salt Lake were not acting toward each other in the brotherly spirit which the spiritual injunction imposed on mankind, and as the company had recently gone through a house cleaning process, that this might be from either the new regime or the old, whom were anxious to come to some settlement.

Believing that no harm could come to our movement, and being willing and ready to extend the olive branch of peace, so as to clean up this controversy in any honorable manner to our members, we deemed it best to go to Salt Lake City and find out who our anxious inquirer was, who could afford to pay our expenses for such a trip. Bro. Sullivan and myself left Butte on Sunday morning and arrived in Salt Lake Sunday evening. We put up at the Wilson House and immediately hunted up Bro. Currie, president of the District Council, to whom we made known our object in coming to Salt Lake City, agreeing to keep our mission unknown to anybody until we found out who the mysterious personage was who desired my presence in that city on so important matters. Monday morning, March 1, I went to the Knutsford Hotel and inquired from the clerk if Mr. J. W. Northrup was in the house. I was informed that "Northrup" had been there and left word that if any person called for him to inform them that he would be there at 10:30 o'clock, and to await that time. I waited patiently for quite a while, when I was accosted by a man who introduced himself as H. Vance Lane, president of the Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone company. He invited me to his room in order that we could have privacy, informing me he was the person who telegraphed me under the name of J. W. Northrup, as he did not desire the other officials of the company to know anything about his negotiating with me regarding any settlement of the existing trouble between his company and the union. He assured me that it was his belief that a settlement could be arrived at between us and that he was informed a settlement could be reached only through me, in Montana, and as that was the only place where the company's business was effected through our boycott against it.

We had quite a lengthy conversation, and when noon arrived had reached no definite conclusion. In fact, we both appeared to be only endeavoring to get acquainted. We agreed to meet again that afternoon at 2:30. When we came down Bros. Sullivan and Currie were sitting in the lobby of the hotel and recognized Mr. Northrup as Vance Lane.

We went to our rooms and I recited the conversation I had with Mr. Lane, also informed them that we were to meet

again at 2:30. At that meeting Mr. Lane and I again thrashed over the different propositions. It ended with, Mr. Lane requesting me to submit to him, in writing, the least conditions on which I would agree to recommend a settlement to our unions and to let him have it by 10:30 the next day. I drew up a proposition and submitted it to Bros. Sullivan and Currie for their approval. This I gave to Mr. Lane the next morning, agreeing to meet him again that afternoon for his answer. He offered objections to the union shop conditions, but more so to the clause providing for a joint settlement with the I. B. E. W. and the Montana Federation of Labor. He did not want to consider the Electrical Workers at all. I informed him that it was impossible for either of us to make a separate settlement, for without both calling off the strike, the boycott would still remain against the company and that the best thing for him to do would be to meet us jointly and settle at the one time. He again professed anxiety to make a settlement, and asked me if I could get Bro. Sullivan to Salt Lake, I promised to do so, and stated that as soon as Bro. Sullivan arrived I would notify Mr. Lane and arrange a meeting.

On Thursday morning I notified Mr. Lane that we were ready to meet with him. At that meeting Mr. Lane arrived at the conclusion that if his competitors could enter into agreements with the unions he saw no reason why he could not do the same. This was after a long discussion between us as to the union conditions, and after we had informed him of the existing written agreements between us and the Independent companies in Utah and Montana; not alone the telephone companies in Montana, but regarding agreements with the Amalgamated Copper company and the I. B. E. W.; the Big Blackfoot Milling Co. and the Montana Federation of Labor. Mr. Lane therefore concluded to negotiate with us in an endeavor to reach a settlement. Bro. Sullivan informed him that insofar as Mr. B. M. Roberts of Salt Lake had tendered his good will towards the Brotherhood to bring about a harmonious settlement, if possible, that he would like Mr. Lane to consent to have Mr. Roberts brought in as a mediator, which was consented to.

There is no use going into all the details of the several conferences which were held, as it would require too much space and take up too much time. A synopsis will suffice. Arrangements were made for Bros. Sullivan and Currie to meet Mr. Roberts, and through him submit a basis of settlement for the I. B. of E. W. covering the district, and it was understood between us and Mr. Lane that

as soon as they could agree upon a basis that we would meet jointly and arrange a settlement for all.

Friday evening we discovered that several of the company's officials were leaving for Montana, which had an ominous meaning to us, as we were getting very suspicious of the sincerity of our friend, Mr. Lane, knowing that only about a week previous the same officials had persuaded several members in Butte, who were delegates to the Silver Bow Trades Assembly, to go into that body and try to have it accept and agree to a settlement that would be favorable to the Bell Company, such settlement to be partially favorable to Butte only.

On Saturday Mr. Roberts informed Bro. Sullivan that as Mr. Lane had left Salt Lake all meetings would be postponed until Monday. Some time late in the afternoon of Saturday Bro. Sullivan received a message from Mr. Lane asking him to meet him immediately. This did not look as if they were acting on the square and tended to arouse our suspicions that all was not right, coming as it did shortly after Mr. Lane had informed Mr. Roberts that he had to leave town. At the meeting between Bro. Sullivan and Mr. Lane nothing materialized. I telegraphed Bro. Donoghue to keep a sharp lookout on Sunday night's meeting of the Assembly, and to watch the arrival of the company's officials and if possible to follow their every move while in Butte. We waited very anxiously for the coming of Monday as we thought by then the company would have returns from its agents in Butte.

Monday a meeting was held between Mr. Roberts and Mr. Lane, and at that conference Mr. Murray played an important part. On learning this, I called on Mr. Lane and arranged for a meeting with him. I informed him of his insincerity, insofar as he at all times had exacted from us a promise not to let any of the other officials of the company know of our negotiating with him in an endeavor to settle this matter, and that I was tired of the whole proceedings, believing that it was a farce and that he was only deceiving us so far as being sincere in desiring the settling of the trouble. Mr. Lane was very profuse in his protestations of sincerity and insisted on me remaining in Salt Lake and that he would make a settlement regardless of Murray or any one else. He had not then had his reports from the agents in Butte as we afterwards ascertained. After consulting with Bros. Sullivan and Currie we concluded to see the thing through.

On Wednesday we met with Mr. Roberts, and he thought that he could yet bring around a satisfactory settlement with Mr. Lane, but such was not to be. Mr. Roberts so informed us, and we then

decided to make one last effort to have Mr. Lane meet with us in the hope that we would be able to convince him of the suicidal policy he was pursuing. We held a long conference with him but nothing came of it. Before we parted Mr. Lane managed to communicate with Bro. Sullivan, requesting a meeting with him alone the next morning. Bro. Sullivan made this known to us, and in order to learn his object we advised Bro. Sullivan to meet him. At that conference Mr. Lane informed Sullivan that Fairgrieve was being opposed by his own people in Montana, but forgot to say who they were, and that he wouldn't have anything more to do with Fairgrieve, but that he (Sullivan) was the only person, and his the only organization to treat with, and that if he would make a recommendation to his men, of a settlement along lines suggested by him (Lane), that he felt sure they could agree. Bro. Sullivan informed Mr. Lane that no settlement would be made which let Fairgrieve and the Montana Federation of Labor out of it, and all conferences ended.

Bro. Sullivan and I concluded to return to Montana at once as we were convinced that efforts were being made by agents of

the company to discredit our organizations and that these agents were being aided by men prominent in the labor movement in Butte and other places in Montana.

Regardless of the act of any fawning sycophant who may be induced to become a hireling for this company, the Parryites or the Manufacturers' Association, we will yet win this contest.

Let your slogan be, "No surrender of the union conditions that have prevailed throughout this state" for if the open shop wedge is permitted to enter our ranks it means the widening of the breach and eventually end in the disintegration of labor's forces.

Demand the union label on everything and stand firmly for union conditions and you will aid your friends.

"Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

Fraternally yours,

ALEX. FAIRGRIEVE,

President Montana Federation of Labor.

I hereby concur in all of the above report.

Fraternally yours,

M. J. SULLIVAN,

Grand Vice President International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

BETWEEN OURSELVES.

THINK there is anything in this race suicide theory? Nothing to hurt, as far as I can observe, a sucker is born every minute.

The foregoing, from the Nashville American, is a forcible reminder to many of us, that there is a heap of truth in that commonly used expression.

The majority of us accept the definition of the word "sucker" to mean some one that has gone up against one kind or another of the innumerable flim-flam or confidence games so well advertised that one imagines every crossroad rube should be wise too. We often hear the expression: He is a sucker against poker; he is a sucker against horses; he is a sucker against women; and a thousand and one similar, all indicating that the subject of the remark is devoid of good reasoning powers when he is up against his particular weak point. One of the remarkable things in connection with the use of the word "sucker" is that you seldom if ever hear it used in connection with anything that is generally accepted as implying good. You never hear any one declare about a fellow man, that he is a "sucker" against home; that he is a "sucker"

against his mother, his wife, his children his lodge or his union interests. The natural inference is that the fellow who is accused of being a sucker is shy a few on intelligence, hence not given to criticism of others; the opposite is, however, true, for the very men who call others suckers are in the estimation of some one the rankest kind of a sucker against something or other which may take the shape of anything from two-bit policy to wild-cat mining stock; or paying pew rent in a church and never attending any of the services given at said church.

There are as many kinds of suckers according to the wise fraternity as there are people on the face of the earth; that such a conclusion is not far from the truth is evidenced by the prosperity of the aforementioned wise fraternity—who, if they were compelled to labor for a livelihood would be pretty close to starving to death.

We have suckers in the labor movement, though it would be more charitable to call them by any other name.

What would you call a body of men who had organized a local union for their protection and trade advancement—who

would select from their number the weakest intellect to occupy the position of president? That would select as recording secretary a man whose penmanship none could read, whose knowledge of composition was on a par with his penmanship?

That would elect as financial secretary a member who knew nothing of common everyday bookkeeping; whose honesty was doubtful and who could not secure a bond for a hundred dollars if his very life depended on securing same. That picked as its vice president one who could hardly read the constitution of their organization, much less wield the gavel as a presiding officer in the absence of the president. That chose as its chaplain a fellow that would make an opening prayer sound like a howling jag singing, "We're here, because we're here." That elected as its inside and outside guards members who would be just as useful forty blocks away from their respective stations by reason of their indifference and negligence; and last but by no means least, put in the position of trustees of the union fellows that didn't know George was dead—who regarded bills and accounts as so much useless junk.

Now on the level, what would you call a body of men who would do any or all of these things; when they had in their midst intelligent, manly, honest fellows who would, if selected, no doubt give a good account of their stewardship. You would not accuse such a body of men as being bright, discerning, careful men, would you? You could not conscientiously class them as men capable of guarding their interests; hence you would more than likely use the sucker expression in one form or another, and no sane man would accuse you of rendering judgment unsuited to the case.

If such an application is permissible collectively, what then can we call the man who applies for membership in one of our locals, pays his initiation fee and several months' dues, then allows his account to run along until he is suspended for non-payment of dues, and in so doing is deprived not only of the chance to work as a trade unionist, but is debarred from whatever benefit is allowed by the local and the international. Who knows that he must pay a penalty to become reinstated and continue to pay dues for six consecutive months before he reaches a similar position occupied prior to becoming a suspended member. Is that man just plain foolish, a sucker, or both rolled up in one?

If a union is worth joining, then it is worth taking an interest in; if it's worth your interest, then it is worth your regular monthly dues—on time—understand on time don't mean the very last minute

of the last day in the month—but on time—the same as you pay your rent, your insurance or any other legitimate expense.

Taking interest in a union is defined by some as sending up their dues by the other fellow and kicking to beat the band when things don't go to suit them, and say, ain't there a multitude of that kind! Kick! wow, they make a football player look like a linen duster in a York state blizzard. But as "Kip" says, that's another story. Those fellows can be cured by silence, tell them nothing and their curiosity will force them to meetings, the same as it forces a kid to want to raise the side of a tent—"just to see what's in there." When they get the silence thing pushed over every time they are absent, they cease to kick, they want to know and there's only one way to know—be at the meeting regularly.

No man is a sucker that puts up his coin, attends his union meetings, helps his fellows to shape the policy of the organization; aids in administering the affairs of his local; bears his share and generally co-operates to make the institution a real tangible asset, a guard against the advance of grasping employers and a weapon of defense against the encroachment of legislative handicap, promulgated by bigots and fanatics. In a nutshell: no man is a sucker that guards his bread and butter and the employment that secures those necessities.

Don't be a sucker.

JERE L. SULLIVAN.

DATA OF THE NEW BENJAMIN TUNGSTEN ARC.



(Design Patent Applied For.)

Fixture measures 25" over all. It consists of stem of $\frac{3}{8}$ " pipe and $\frac{3}{4}$ " casing, crowfoot, wires, deep canopy, cluster body, and 18" Opal reflector. Brass base is covered with conical shape frosted aluminum reflector which materially increases the reflecting surface of the device. It is furnished in 4 to 6 lights, either with or without center lamp opening, and with or without pendant switch. It is symmetrical in outside and pleasing in appearance—offers an effective, convenient and economical fixture for public lighting purposes.

"HANDY HINTS."

By ROBERT STEIN OF SEATTLE 217.

BELIEVING that these "Handy Hints" will be of benefit to some journeymen and of special use to the helpers, I will endeavor to explain a few problems that present themselves to the average electrician almost daily and which may be of assistance to him in solving them more quickly and accurately, and incidentally acquainting him with the fundamental principles upon which they are based.

The most common and useful material the electrician handles is wire. Its cross-sectional area, or thickness, is measured in "circular mils" in a similar custom as the area of a floor space is measured in square feet or land measured in square miles, with the contradistinction that the measurement of wire is given in circular area while practically all other areas, even water pipe, are measured in square denominations. Now why is this? Why not measure wire in square mils? It has simply been brought about to eliminate unnecessary calculations and to provide for uniformity.

When finding the area of a wire in circular mils it is only required to measure its diameter in mils (or thousandths of an inch), and multiply it by itself, the answer will be its cross-sectional area in circular mils.

To illustrate the roundabout method of figuring in case the custom were to give the area of a wire in square mils and also to explain why wire is measured in circular mils, I will refer to Fig. 1, in which we will suppose that the wire (shown by the circle), is four mils in diameter. Now to find the area of this wire in "square mils," the following calculation would be necessary:

$4 \text{ mils} \times 4 \text{ mils} = 16 \text{ sq. mils} = \text{area of a "square" } 4 \text{ mils on a side.}$

Now, the diameter of the circle is also 4 mils, but it is evident that it has less area than the square. Therefore $16 \text{ sq. mils} \times .7854 = 12.5664 \text{ sq. mils} = \text{the area of the circle or wire in "square mils."}$

All this extra calculation has been proven unnecessary by the recognition of a simple geometrical fact which is that the "sq. mils" contained in a "square" is the same number as the "circular mils" contained in a "circle" of equal widths and diameters. Therefore, to find the "circular mils" of the wire in Fig. 1, it is simply required to multiply together or square its diameter, or

$4 \text{ mils} \times 4 \text{ mils} = 16 \text{ "circular mils" in area.}$

But, now again, suppose that the wire is square instead of circular, as shown in Fig. 1, and it is desired to obtain its

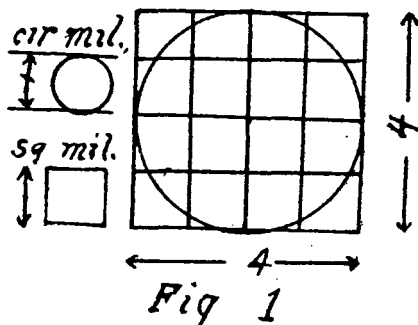
cross section in circular mils. I have seen many wiremen figure out the circular mils of bus bars and arrive at a result considerably less than actually contained therein. It is very evident that if the circle shown in Fig. 1 contains 16 circular mils, the square must contain more. Therefore the following calculation will obtain:

$4 \text{ mils} \times 4 \text{ mils} = 16 \text{ sq. mils}$ in the square, or 16 "circular mils" in the circle. As the result is wanted in circular mils, it is necessary to divide by .7854, or

$16 \div .7854 = 20.6265 \text{ "circular mils"}$ contained in a bus bar 4 mils square. This last method will be found correct for any rectangular area.

If the area of a wire in circular mils is known, we can find the diameter in mils (or thousandths of an inch) by extracting the sq. root of its area in circular mils, thus:

$\sqrt{\times 16 \text{ circular mils}} = 4 \text{ mils} = \text{diameter}$



Practically all the copper wire manufactured in this country is measured by the Brown & Sharp gauge. There is a system which every electrician will find very convenient to know, when using wires of this gauge, by which he can mentally determine their comparative cross-sectional area by knowing the gauge number of the wires, or vice versa.

This is the rule: By adding 3 to the gauge number of a B. & S. wire, we obtain the number of wire having approximately one-half cross-sectional area.

Also, by subtracting 3 from the gauge number of a B. & S. wire, we obtain the number of wire having approximately twice the cross-sectional area.

For illustration, supposing we take a No. 8 gauge B. & S. wire as a basis of comparison, then, by "adding" 3 to the gauge number we have No. 11 gauge wire, which is approximately one-half the cross-sectional area, or two No. 11 wires have the same sectional area as one No. 8. Similarly, two No. 14 wires have the same

sectional area as one No. 11, or four No. 14 wires equal one No. 8. Also by "subtracting" 3 from No. 8 we obtain No. 5 wire, which is twice the area of No. 8, and 3 from No. 5 = No. 2 wire, which is twice the area of No. 5 or 4 times that of No. 8 wire, or 8 times that of No. 11 wire, or 16 times the area of No. 14 wire.

In this connection it should also be borne in mind that a wire 3 guage numbers more than the original wire will have a resistance of one-half the original wire.

The fundamental basis from which these rules are obtained is the cube root of two, or $\sqrt[3]{2} = 1.26$; by which all B. & S. wire is specified.

In order to find the size of wire in circular mils one guage number smaller or larger than the known wire, multiply or divide by 1.26, respectively.

A very handy thing to remember is the fact that 1000 feet of No. 10 wire has a resistance of 1 ohm, its diameter is approximately 100 mils and its cross-sectional area is 10,000 circular mils. Therefore, in the absence of a table, in case we only remember that No. 10 wire has an area of 10,000 circular mils and we wish to find the area of a No. 8 wire, the following is the method to be pursued:

10,000 circ. mils $\times 1.26 = 12,600$ circ. mils—area of a No. 9 wire.

12,600 circ. mils $\times 1.26 = 15,876$ circ. mils—area of a No. 8 wire, which is close

enough for all practical wiring calculations.

Also to find the resistance in ohms of a No. 8 wire when it is known that 1000 feet of No. 10 equals 1 ohm resistance.

1 ohm $\div 1.26 = .79365$ ohms—resistance of No. 9 wire.

.79365 ohms $\div 1.26 = .6298$ ohms—resistance of 1000 feet of No. 8 wire.

EXAMPLE:—What is the resistance in ohms of 3500 ft. of No. 0000 cable which contains 64 number "15" wires?

With a little forethought the quickest solution is explained this way:

Since 4 number 16 wires have the same area as one number 10 wire, the resistance of 1000 ft. of No. 16 $= 4 \times 1$ ohm $= 4$ ohms.

4 ohms $\times "1.26" = 3.178$ ohms—resistance of 1000 ft. No. 15 wire.

3.178 ohms $\times 64 = .049$ ohms—resistance of 1000 ft. .0000 cable containing 64 No. 15 wires.

3500 ft. $= 3.5 \times .049$ ohms $= .1715$ ohms—resistance of cable.—Ans.

There are other ways of finding the same result, but this is the handiest for the wireman who cannot always have a wire table for ready reference.

P. S.—If agreeable to the members I will continue my "Handy Helps" in the next issue of the "WORKER" and will resume my remarks pertaining to the rapid determination of wire sizes and the installation of copper wire for electrical usage.

THE COST.

FROM THE IRON TRAIL.

"THE COST" to the organized railroad men of the country to maintain the insurance features of their organizations for the month of January was, for the 300 claims reported, the immense sum of \$457,578.

As in January, so in February does the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen lead the list, both in the number of claims and the total sum paid. This organization pays for 125 claims the sum of \$150,300. Of this large number of claims, 75 were from railroad accidents. As usual the cause of the majority of these accidents are from falling from trains and from coupling, and goes a long ways to prove that while safety devices have been forced onto the railroad companies, these devices are not in good working order.

"Falling from trains" result from poor draft rigging pulling out, or from the automatic couplers opening just as the unfortunate man is stepping from one car to another, and thus throwing him

to the ground, or else when these breaks occur, they set the air in emergency and thus throw the man to his death. Accidents from coupling happen oftener than one would think, from defective couplers refusing to work and thus necessitating the brakeman or conductor reaching in between to adjust, if possible, these defects—when they are caught.

Next on the list with the largest number of claims comes the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. They report 71 claims at a cost of \$168,000. There are only 17 claims from railroad accidents reported, which result from collisions and derailments.

The Order of Railway Conductors paid \$81,000 for 49 claims, 24 of which were from railroad accidents.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen report 61 claims at \$81,000, and of these claims only about 28 can be attributed to railroad accidents. The Switchmen's Union of North America report \$15,300 for 14 claims paid,

and the greater majority of these are from yard accidents.

Thus it will be seen that the total cost for the month for the five great railroad organizations is:

Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen for 125 claims.....	\$150,300
Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers for 71 claims.....	168,000
Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers for 61 claims	81,000
Order Railway Conductors, for 49 claims	81,000
Switchmen's Union of North America, for 14 claims.....	15,300

Total for 320 claims.....\$495,600

The B. of R. T. paid for railroad accidents 75 out of 125.

The B. of L. E. paid for railroad accidents 17 out of 71.

The B. of L. F. & E. paid for railroad accidents 28 out of 61.

The O. R. C. paid for railroad accidents 24 out of 49.

The S. U. of N. A. paid for railroad accidents a majority out of 14.

In two months these organizations have each reported and paid for claims as follows:

The B. of R. T. for 248 claims....	\$309,350
The B. of L. E. for 130 claims....	308,000
The B. of L. F. & E. for 115 claims	157,000
The O. R. C. for 102 claims.....	151,478
The S. U. of N. A. for 25 claims..	27,100

For a total of 620 claims.....\$952,928

Are the railroad organizations worth talking about, thinking about, belonging to, even from the standpoint of insurance?

Remember that no one except he who is working at a most hazardous calling can belong to these great insurance companies.

The figures this month show some interesting data, first that the trainmen of

this country are harder hit in one sense of the word than any of the other classes, but they have a strong organization which, it can be seen, is needed to go against \$150,000 and better every month. They paid two claims more at over \$9,000 less this month, showing that those holding the smaller policies were harder hit this time.

The B. of L. E. sustained a terrible loss this month over last month. They meet 51 claims more at an increased expense of \$28,000. This organization has not the membership that the others have—except the O. R. C. and the S. U. of N. A.—yet they are the hardest hit per member. Probably the large policy they allow may be responsible for this. It also looks as if riding an engine for years brings on complications that result in sickness and death, for only a small number of these claims, comparatively speaking, are from railroad accidents.

Next comes the B. of L. F. & E. and the O. R. C., with about the same number of claims to meet, and with about the same cash payments. The B. of L. F. & E. members, though, seem to suffer more from railroad accident than do those of the B. of L. E.

Last, but not least, comes the S. U. of N. A. While not reporting whether death or disability results more from railroad accident than from sickness it is safe to say that railroad accidents claim a far higher percentage of members from this organization than from any of the others. They are, in fact, the "Light Brigade" in the Railroad World.

Again, who dares say aught against any of these organizations, in any way, shape or manner?

It is the solemn duty of every man who is eligible to become a member of these organizations, because of the hazardousness of his occupation, to get in line at the very earliest moment and thus safeguard those dependent on him from being thrown on the mercy of charity.

OUR PROGRESS.

I MUST congratulate you on the condition of our WORKER. It is both interesting and educating, clean and up-to-date in every way, and your Financial Secretary's Notes will do much good for the I. B. Keep it up, Brother Collins, and don't let the knockers worry you.

Brother E. S. Hurly, of 537, I must congratulate you for the noble article in defense of our Grand Officers. But I guess our G. P. is conscious of what he has done. Don't keep him awake nights. Go ahead, Mc. A good soldier never

looks behind. Don't mind cowards in ambush. They can't hit you hard enough to hurt. This is our hardest fight, trying to educate the card men and make union men of them. We would not have to hold protest meetings and be fighting for our right if we were honest union men and wore union made goods. Why is it that the A. F. of L. keeps that unfair list so much before the union men? Have you forgotten what the forbidden fruit done to our first parents? Don't tell us about our enemies and say nothing

about our friends. Tell us who our friends are; show us where we can buy union label goods; make the central labor unions in every town and city keep a list of union goods in their halls and the stores that keep those goods, then our enemies can hand us all the lemons they want and we will make lemonade and drink their health. You know, boys, we have got to learn to drink lemonade or some other sober drink.

Bro. E. Arrington, P. S. 164, your letter is all right and ought to open the eyes of some of our careless brothers. It is about time they pulled themselves out of the ruts. Stop and think it over, brothers. You have the goods in you; it only wants shaking up a little. You cannot expect anyone to respect you if you don't respect yourself. I am not a Prohibitionist; I will vote against it every time. I think that a man that runs a saloon is as good as a man that runs a drug store, if he runs it right, but I don't want to go through a saloon to meetings, nor for our Business Agents to have their headquarters in one. I have been told that is the reason we have no union men working for the Hartford Electric Light Co. today. If they wanted to do business they had to hunt our men up in back rooms. But they did not do it and we have no men working for the Hartford Electric Light today, and can you blame those people for keeping us down? No. Why is it that the companies are making the men furnish so much tools today? Because some of our brothers had so little respect for the tenth commandment that they tore it to pieces. How can we expect people to be honest with us if we are dishonest with them? If a man beats you out of a dollar are you going to give him another? I guess you won't. I know that we are not getting the wages that we ought to get for the chances we take. If they are beating me I am not going to steal

from them to get even. Two wrongs never made a right. Everything will come all right. (In God we trust.) But He won't help you if you don't help yourself. We have a big building to put up, brothers, and we have got to put a good solid foundation under it if we want to keep it up, and we are going to keep it up with God's help.

I have never met our Grand Officers. I saw the G. V. Pres., but I have never spoken to him. I have done business with him through the mail and he has done everything he promised. I am doing business with G. S. every month. We make a few mistakes between us but we get them straightened out all right. We all can make mistakes. Let us help one another to correct them, and remember that you are living in a civilized country, that you are supposed to be civilized. People act as such. God did not put us on earth to fight among ourselves. He put us here to work out our salvation. Did you ever read what God said to the people that brought the sinful woman to Him? He said, Stone her to death, but let those without sin throw the first stone. Brothers, there were not any stones thrown at the poor woman and he forgave her. Some of the boys of No. 37 say I ought to be a preacher. Brothers, well I might some day, when they get the wireless telephone working. They won't need any linemen. I will have to get a job at something else then. Thank you, brothers, for the compliment. The preachers might help us a little but they have their own troubles and we will try and help ourselves first. So, brothers, don't forget the poor, awful woman. Don't throw stones at the officers or your brother until you clean yourself. Wear all union goods first before you call yourself a union man, and then throw bricks if you want to.

Yours fraternally,

D. M. M., L. U. 37.

UNIONISM IN CANADA.

IT has been our purpose to aid and assist to the fullest extent of our movement our Canadian fellow workmen. In the transaction of our affairs we have regarded them as being part and parcel of the American labor movement as much as our movement is part and parcel of theirs. Geographical lines have in no way interfered with for any person not a Canadian or a British subject to "incite workmen to go out on strike in Canada."

Of course it is well known to those who participate in our movement and others who are not hostile that as a

matter of fact our unions, our officers and our representatives do not "incite" workmen to go on strike, either in the United States or in Canada; that strikes are entered into by workmen of their own volition after they themselves have determined upon that action and when no other recourse is open.

The men of labor in Canada have as much right to conduct their own affairs as have any members of organized labor in the United States. It is not difficult, however, to discern that if such a law as Senator McMillan proposed were possible of enactment any aid which the

labor men of Canada might ask of the United States trades unionists to go there and give would be construed as an act to "incite" other workmen in Canada to go out on strike. Organized labor in Canada, true to its own interests and to the welfare of all the people of the Dominion, as well as justice toward the labor movement of the United States, protested so emphatically that Senator McMillan's bill was killed by an overwhelming majority in the senate and hence did not reach the house.

In summing up the situation Secretary Draper, of the Dominion trades and labor congress, substantially says:

"It is gratifying that the labor movement in Canada keeps pace with the progress being made in the United States. On every hand labor seems to be taking a larger and better view of its rights and responsibilities, with a consequent increase in the number of those who unite in trades unions with their fellow workers for their social and economic betterment. For many years the development of the labor movements in Canada was confined almost entirely to eastern Canada, but within the last three years the West has sprung to the front, and today no finer example of enthusiastic work for the strengthening of trades unionism can be found from Winnipeg to the Pacific coast. The expansion of the Canadian west and northwest industrially is equalled if not surpassed by the activity and energy displayed by trades unionists in their efforts to consolidate the interests of workmen everywhere.

"The session of the trades and labor congress of Canada in Victoria, B. C., in 1906 gave additional zest to the movement, and the recent session at Winnipeg, Man., cemented for all time the bond of unionism between the workers in the west and those in the east. It is not too much to say that organized labor in Canada has assumed a new dignity, born of the realization of the great work that lies before it, and that the future will see such a development in the organization and labor of Canadian workmen as to justify the best hopes of the present. Nor must it be forgotten that as organization increases the sentiment in favor of international trades unionism grows stronger. Not all the blandishments of capital nor the short-sighted attitude of a few disgruntled workers who clamor for a 'national' organization will suffice to offset the zealous, indefatigable and untiring efforts of those who believe that the interests of the working people, whether north or south of the line, are identical; that the same foes are to be met with everywhere, that the welfare of the little ones must be guarded and that women workers and men workers must unite on all hands for their mutual benefit and the general uplifting of the common people.

"I am sure that the sentiments here expressed meet with the cordial approval and encouragement of the best men and best minds of the entire labor movement of the American continent."—From President Gompers' Report.

APPEAL TO LABOR.

From the Exclusion Committee of California.

BROTHERS:—The time has come when the laboring men of the United States must stand together for the protection of themselves and families, against the Chinese and Japanese labor imported into the United States by organized capital, for the purpose of controlling the labor market.

It is estimated that there are now 300,000 (three hundred thousand) Japanese alone—not mentioning the great number of Chinese—who are settled in most of the large cities of the west, edging themselves into every nook and corner where labor is employed, pushing out our countrymen one by one.

It is estimated that they draw, on the average, of twelve dollars per week, making a total of \$3,600,000, and that two-thirds of that amount finds its way to the Orient. A very few ever become American citizens, preferring to remain subjects of their own government.

There is now a resolution in Congress for the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion bill that will slumber there until after the presidential election; and should capital carry the election it will be repealed.

Though a non-sympathizer of labor be elected to Congress, he would not dare, from his political standpoint, to voice his opinions against the Exclusion bill.

Brothers, shall we stand back and see capital fill our country with cheap labor, and cause our wives and children to suffer? No! Then, brothers, we must act at once; not as individuals, but in a body. This does not mean that you support any particular party, but to form a solid, united body for the benefit of the laboring man in the United States against cheap imported labor; and there is nothing that will show our strength more than for every man to wear an Exclusion badge.

Brother, we ask that this be read before every lodge you visit, and the im-

portance of it discussed before those bodies.

The price of the badges are ten cents apiece. Send money by postoffice order to the secretary of the committee. Send promptly, so we can supply you early and avoid the rush. The committee is now prepared to supply you with badges, and in this way we can at once show our great strength in opposition to imported cheap labor.

SCOTT F. EDWARDS, President,
Los Angeles, Cal.

C. E. KENNY, Secretary,
1516 Winfield, St.,
Los Angeles, Cal.

THE DYING SCAB.

(By an Unknown Author—Fair Haven.)

INTO a little country village on a cold December day, there came a drunken wanderer, his hair was turning gray. His hat was old and battered, his clothes were rent and torn, and his worn out shoes let in the snow, that bitter winter morn. The children fled from him, with mingled fear and hate; the grown up ones just sneered, saying the "scab" has met his fate. None gave him any succor in all that little town, so to a shed he wandered and on the earth lay down. His strength was spent from hunger, his days were nearly done, and thus the good priest found him at the setting of the sun. The good man knelt beside him and bowed his head to pray, when to the people standing nigh the dying man did say: In this pretty little village long ago I used to live; I had as good a wife and home as God to man could give. My friends were numbered by the score; I was liked by one and all, till I betrayed the union men, 'twas then came my downfall. I started in strike breaking, and on old friends to scab—I made honest men desert their cause by my ready gift of gab. I did the bosses' bidding, I worked from early morn, little thinking they would ever turn and treat me with such scorn. But now I see my folly; they shun me with a curse, and my soul is rent asunder by the anguish of remorse. My children have deserted me, my wife, she died from shame, and my gray-haired father cursed me, for I disgraced his honored name. In my dreams I see the children, hear them crying out for bread; hear the weeping wives and mothers, whose loved ones then had fled. Fathers, husbands sons and

brothers, I have driven from their home, by my shameless, unfair methods in this old Fair Haven town. My shame I'd flaunt at keen distress, for the bosses paid me well, and for their filthy money I have sent my soul to hell. On Sundays I would go to church and loudly there I'd sing, then drown with drink my conscience when I heard its warning ring. But now I am dying, and for pardon dare not ask, from the God I have offended by my misdeeds in the past. I can see the imps of Satan leering at me as I die. God's pity, but I used to dream of the sweet bye and bye. So now all good people take a dying scab's advice, and never go strike-breaking regardless of the price. For the bosses will desert you when the men have won their fight—God will never see them lose, He knows their cause is right. So if you are ever tempted, no matter where you're from, just remember God-forsaken, heaven-abandoned Tom. — Commercial Telegrapher.

DONATIONS.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

The following is a complete list of Locals donating to L. U. No. 14 since Feb. 26, 1908, up to and including March 27, 1908:

No. 305	\$ 1 00
No. 516	10 00
No. 247	20 00
No. 401	20 30
No. 331	5 00
No. 209	5 00
No. 325	5 00

Kindly express the appreciation of L. U. No. 14 for the generous way in which the I. B. E. W. in general has taken up our fight.

J. A. GROVES.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Enclosed you will find additional list of amount sent in by Local Unions for the benefit of Local Union No. 31 of Duluth, Minn. Kindly add this to the former list I sent you under date of Feb. 28, 1908, and publish same in the next issue of the ELECTRICAL WORKER.

L. U'	Amount.
278, Davenport, Iowa	\$ 5 00
158, Green Bay, Wis.	3 00
574, Bremerton, Wash.	10 00
401, Reno, Nev.	20 30
325, Binghamton, N. Y.	5 00
180, Vallejo, Cal.	10 00

FRANK FISHER, P. D. C.

PLUTOCRACY OR DEMOCRACY?

(BY ALEXANDER LAW.)

THE irrepressible conflict between plutocracy and democracy is reaching its acute stage through the efforts of the railroad managers to reduce the wages of the men who operate the transportation systems of the nation. As a result of the dishonesty and shortsighted policy of our so-called railroad, financial and other kings, the business of the country is demoralized, thousands are out of employment, and at a time demanding wise and constructive statesmanship our captains of industry endeavor to meet this state of affairs by reducing the standard of living of those in no way responsible for the deplorable condition the nation finds itself in today. It must be evident to all that a reconstruction of our industrial and political system is imperative. With our labor organizations, upon whom the future of the nation as well as the development of government of, for and by the people depends, at the mercy of courts constantly making decisions in the interest of plutocratic corporations and ignoring the ordinary rights guaranteed by the constitution of these United States to the individual, it devolves upon all who believe in liberty for the masses and in the right of the people to rule themselves industrially as well as politically to get together, with the avowed object to take advantage of the coming presidential election in an endeavor to place in the executive office a representative of the democratic aspirations of the people, which seems impossible through the agency of the dominant parties, controlled as they are, with the machinery in the hands of the rapacious plutocrats, who in their greed to make money ignore all the ideals and add insult to injury in an endeavor to make the hard-working employes of the railroads the victims of their rapacity and dishonesty.

A great opportunity offers itself to the labor organizations. The statesmen and politicians developed under conditions no longer applicable to the twentieth century have conclusively demonstrated their inability to any longer pose as representatives of the desires and aspirations of the masses. The times are big with possibilities, and the plain people of the nation must be aroused to the dangers confronting them. The logic of events in compelling the masses to face the problems now demanding solution. The Central Federated Union of New York City is calling upon the American Federation of Labor to supplement its action along industrial lines with political action, based on the

demands of the people for industrial as well as political liberty. Another great crisis is now upon us, and the nation that withstood the greatest naval and military power and won its independence in its infancy and preserved the union of states by destroying the slave power in its early manhood, is now called upon to wage a relentless contest, not only in its own interest, but in the interest of progress, humanity and civilization, against an oligarchy of wealth that threatens all that the heroes of old achieved after years of toil and struggle for the benefit of the human race. It is from the ranks of the plain people the deliverer must come. All other agencies have failed to measure up to the opportunities confronting the nation today. The Eight-Hour League of America presents vital issues that all lovers of freedom and progress, independent of present political or industrial affiliation, can unite upon. An impregnable issue, voicing the worldwide demand for the universal eight-hour workday. An issue the American people are already agreed upon, and one on which all further social and industrial development of the people depends. One that can become operative through the railroad systems of the country without additional legislation the same day the next president takes the oath of office, the 4th of March, 1909. The Eight-Hour League of America also stands for the recognition of the right of the national organizations of labor to regulate the hours, wages and working conditions of their constituents. The industrial peace of the nation depends upon this recognition, and next to the initiative and referendum it is the surest way by which the working masses can retain a hold upon the government of which they are so important a part, as political liberty without industrial freedom is an anomaly the growing intelligence of the people can no longer tolerate. The industrial slavery worse than chattel slavery that now dooms over two millions of the children of this reputed "land of the free" to toil and wear their young lives out at an age when they should be in school and at play, qualifying and strengthening themselves to take an active part in what the nation is supposed to represent and stand for, can be met and eliminated by this recognition. Our labor organizations have always been foremost in insisting on humane conditions for all employes and against the employment of children. They more than our state and national legislators realize the danger to their own offspring as well as to the nation that

must soon call upon them to assume the cares of citizenship. Such employment disqualifies them for the task and renders them the helpless victims of the inhuman system now in vogue.

The outrageous loss of life and limb in the mills, mines and factories and on the railroads of the country is becoming greater every year, notwithstanding the safety appliances available to lessen the casualties of our industrial life, more deadly in its effects than the recent Japanese and Russian war was to its participants, can better be presented by this recognition than possibly by all the legislation of the various states and that of the national government combined. On the score of what that recognition will achieve for humanity the American people, let alone the laboring masses, now the victims of the greed, rapacity and inhumanity of those who value their ill-gotten money more than the lives of men, should stand for it as one man. With this object in view we can rally the people to vote in their own interests and for their own protection and give to their representatives who will gravitate to the front under these conditions the power to continue the upbuilding of the great republic Washington fought for and Lincoln died for. President Roosevelt, in his recent message to Congress calling attention to abuses and asking for remedial legislation, and for his efforts on behalf of the railroad employes threatened with a reduction of wages, is deserving of commendation. And it is a noteworthy fact that in the interest of the square deal

he in theory so much favors he has brought upon himself the opposition of his party, which is good evidence that neither he nor any one else who should succeed him, owing election to the forces now in control of the party once represented by the great Lincoln, could or would do in the interests of the masses what they, seeking a leader of their own familiar with the obstacles now handicapping them, by the exercise of their political power can do for themselves. The industrial questions transcend in importance, so far as the future welfare of the nation is concerned, anything the politicians and so-called statesmen are preparing to fight their usual sham battles about. The labor question, as the foundation question of all future advance, calls for its proper solution. And the labor element of the nation, rising to the great opportunity now before it, must by its intelligence its devotion to the great cause of humanity and in the interest of the democratic aspirations of the plain people, upon whom the future peace and prosperity of the world depends, rise in its might and place at the head of the nation one commissioned by its authority to use any and all powers of the people to save the union of labor, now threatened by forces that have always worked against the interests of the people, and is as necessary to the present and future salvation of the republic as was the union of states necessary to its preservation in the days that tried men's souls, the heroic days of the great civil war, nearly fifty years ago.

PRESS MISREPRESENTATIONS

Of Labor's Criticism of Supreme Court Decisions

OUR editorial in the March issue on the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the Hatters' case has been commented upon by many newspapers all over the country. We wish we could think the general trend of the comment intelligent, honest or helpful. We regret to say that these qualities are mostly conspicuous by their absence from nearly all of the criticisms and attacks to which this journal and its editor, as well as the American Federation of Labor itself, have been subjected. In not a few cases, gross, malicious, vicious misrepresentation has been recklessly resorted to, the evident purpose being to poison the public mind against the American Federation of Labor and to represent the latter as a criminal combination that ought to be prosecuted and suppressed.

Several papers have used the phrase, "Opposition to the Supreme Court," in describing our attitude. They know better. On the contrary, while protesting against its injustice we stated that we accepted the decision as the law of the land. We also expressed our belief in the integrity and honesty of the court, in its desire to construe the laws and legal principles so as to insure equality of right and immunities. But, at the same time, we ventured to criticise the reasoning of the court, to point out some mistakes of fact and of logic. Is this "opposing the court" in any objectionable sense? Has not the court been criticised before by Democrats, by Republicans, by Populists, by Independents? Was not the income tax criticised? Was not the Philippine tariff and flag decision criticised, even by

prominent members of Congress? Since when has the Supreme Court been above temperate and fair criticism? What law or doctrine is there to prevent a citizen, whether in public or private life, or the editor of a newspaper or magazine from expressing his opinions as to the justice or soundness of court rulings?

Our rabid and dishonest critics have either forgotten, or else choose to ignore, the fact that the judges of the Supreme Court itself have criticised its decisions. Dissenting opinions are certainly not exceptional, and some of them have been severe, spirited and highly controversial. In the income tax decision the majority judges displayed much feeling in refuting the arguments of the majority, and the press of the country commented at the time on the earnestness and spirit with which the "court" was "opposed." In the lottery case the chief justice, in dissenting, told the court that its construction of the constitution tended to preserve the form only of that charter, while destroying its substance and meaning. In the Arago case (Robertson vs. Baldwin) the dissenting opinion arraigned the majority decision and opinion of the court as enforcing slavery. These instances can be multiplied indefinitely. Were the minority judges opposing and attacking the court in these cases? Did any one assail them for their vigorous dissent and outspoken criticisms? No; many cordially endorsed their attitude and praised their candor and independence as, indeed, they deserved to be praised.

Another favorite phrase that has been greatly overworked is that "Mr. Gompers overrules the Supreme Court." The thoughtless may be led astray by such misuse of language, but to the sensible it is sufficiently plain that argument, criticism, and discussion of a decision do not constitute "overruling." Impotent rage and malignity alone can inspire cheap, idle misrepresentation of this sort.

But we have gone farther than negative criticism and discussion. We have favored and announced the use of the power and influence of organized labor and its friends, with Congress in every legitimate way in order to secure legislation legalizing the peaceful and orderly actions of labor. We have asserted and

argued that just as a man may refuse to work for another, so may he, under right principle of action, refuse to give his custom to another man. We have further maintained that if men have this right individually, they must have it as an organization when acting in concert. We shall continue to maintain this, in spite of all frenzied denunciation and stupid misrepresentation. Time was when the right of men to strike in concert was held to be illegal, and the sophists of that day drew all sorts of fanciful distinctions between individual strikes and strikes by large bodies and combinations. The progress of thought and of labor has overruled the laws and courts in that respect. It is now admitted—grudgingly, by the way—that men may strike in concert and under an agreement without becoming criminals, no matter how seriously their action may "injure" the employer, or how inconvenient the time for the strike may be for his interests. We contend—and in due time it will be the law—that men may agree to withhold their patronage from any one person, or from any number of persons, for any reason whatever, providing they do not libel or misrepresent, and provided they refrain from all manner of unlawful coercion and aggression. We assert, in short, the moral right of peaceful boycotting which is only another name for peaceful withholding of patronage from men to whom they are under no legal or moral duty to give their custom or trade. Talk of "conspiracy," injury, malice, and so on, is misleading and irrelevant and question-begging, for it all assumes that men may not do collectively what they may do admittedly, individually.

For the present the Supreme Court has ruled that peaceful boycotting, as explained above, is illegal. There is no body to overrule it, except Congress and the people, whose views may be different and whose conception of public policy and public good may lead to a change in the laws. For such a change we shall work, as we have a right to work and we are convinced that it must and will come. Lies and abuse and slander will not be permitted to obstruct the movement for saner and juster laws affecting the rights of workmen and citizens under the constitution.—American Federationist.

THE POUND OF FLESH.

BY HENRY GEORGE, JR.

NOT since the pre-revolutionary times, when the Boston tea party boycotted the British government taxes by throwing a shipload of taxed tea into Boston harbor, has any New England

town attracted more attention for a boycott than has little hatmaking Danbury, Conn.

It is a place of about 25,000 inhabitants, and has twenty-four hat factories that

make about two-thirds of all the hats used in the United States and Canada.

All but three of these factories are union. Of the three non-union, or "open" factories, that of D. E. Loewe & Co. is the largest.

When the union asked Loewe & Co. to unionize, Mr. Loewe refused. He thought he could get his labor cheaper outside.

The union thereupon called its men out, and, through its national union—the United Hatters of North America—called the Loewe hats "unfair" and declared a boycott.

Loewe turned his case over to the American Anti-Boycott Association, and the fight began in earnest.

The association concluded to fight the union in an unusual way—to attack its individual members. Of the 3,000 men in the local union it selected approximately 250 of the most prosperous.

They had little homes and bank accounts, which the Anti-Boycott Association attached for alleged damages done Loewe's business through the boycott. Simultaneously it began two suits, one in a State and one in a Federal court.

The attachments were at first for \$100,000 in the State and \$240,000 in the Federal court. But these amounts were overruled as beyond all reason. They were cut by the courts to \$60,000 in the State suit and \$120,000 in the Federal suit. Of this total of \$180,000, the sum of \$50,000 was in bank accounts and \$130,000 on homes.

These attachments occurred in September, 1904—nearly three and a half years ago!

They were expected to frighten the workmen and destroy their union. But, though they proved great hardships, the men stood fast.

When they found the burden unbearable, the national union came to their relief, taking over their bank books with assignments and giving cash in exchange. In this way the 250 men have had \$50,000 from the United Hatters' treasury.

But they could not turn over their homes, and have had to bear the \$130,000 of attachments remaining.

And this they will have to continue to bear while the case is being fought out in the courts.

For the decision of the Supreme Court declared merely that suit might be brought in the name of Loewe under the Sherman anti-trust act for three times the damages that could be proved.

It is up to the Anti-Boycott Association to bring suit for alleged damages in the

United States District Court. In the case before the Supreme Court these damages were set at \$80,000. It remains to be seen what part of this amount can be proved before a jury.

But after that may come appeals. Time may lengthen out into years—and meanwhile the 250 workmen stand attached for \$180,000!

If the Loewe Company can prove \$80,000 of damages resulting from the boycott, it will be entitled to exact three times that amount under the Sherman act, or \$240,000, if so much can be found in the possession of the 250 Danbury men already attached, or in possession of any other member of the union besides!

And then, moreover, are all the costs of litigation, which up to this time have been very heavy; and the fines to pay in a criminal suit, if such should follow!

Large as it is, this takes no note of the State case, in which no move has been made since the attachment of \$60,000 was fixed three and a half years ago!

Should that case be carried forward and \$80,000 of damages through boycott proved, that amount, plus costs, piled on top of all the Federal damage, criminal and legal costs, will crush down upon the 250 Danbury workmen and their fellows!

The spirit of the money-lender of Venice is in the great secret Anti-Boycott Association, which doubtless will, without a tremor of pity, exact the last fraction of the pound of flesh awarded it by the decision of the Supreme Court and the consequent action of the lower courts.

All this is the more appalling to the Danbury workmen and their fellows, since it is lightning out of a clear sky. They supposed they acted within their rights. Their legal advisers told them they had not acted unlawfully.

United States District Justice Platt declared that their acts did not come under the Sherman anti-trust act, as read by the decisions and opinions of the United States Supreme Court in various cases, which he cited.

But the Supreme Court chose to ignore its previous rulings and to ignore all custom from the time of the Boston tea party. It fell upon the Danbury workmen with a crushing weight.

And it may fall, by application of the decision, in a like crushing way upon tens, perhaps hundreds of thousands of workmen, who, through unions, have been endeavoring to resist the downward tendency of wages, the increase of working hours and the general hardening of the conditions of labor.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Local No. 13.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

WHEREAS, A circular letter dated Oakland, Cal., February 20, 1908, has been issued by parties who are afraid to sign their names, although claiming to be electrical workers; and

WHEREAS, Said sponsorless, irresponsible circular is distributed for the purpose of sowing the seed of dissension and destruction among the members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in this jurisdiction, through malicious insinuations and false accusations against the Grand President therefore, be it

Resolved, by Local No. 13, I. B. E. W., in regular meeting assembled, that we hereby express our full and complete confidence in the ability, integrity and honesty of Grand President F. J. McNulty, who as the chief executive of the great International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, came to this coast and in his official capacity worked energetically and indefatigably, displaying the endurance, skill and tact necessary to untangle the deplorable skeins, heal the breach and rescue from the chasm of ruin the once grand Local of the I. B. E. W. of San Francisco that it had been plunged into.

Resolved, That we, the members of Local No. 13, I. B. E. W., hereby express and convey our heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation to Grand President F. J. McNulty for his heroic, noble, successful and untiring efforts in behalf of the members of the Electrical Workers' trade on the Pacific coast, which has won not only the good will and esteem, but the highest commendation and praise of all the other organized building artisans of California; and be it further

Resolved, That we hereby denounce the said spurious circular.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this union, and a copy thereof forwarded to Grand President F. J. McNulty; a copy to Grand Secretary Peter Collins of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, with the urgent request that this resolution be printed in the next issue of the ELECTRICAL WORKER, the official organ of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; a copy forwarded to the San Francisco Building Trades Council,

and all other local building trades councils in the state of California; the Pacific District Council of Electrical Workers, Local No. 537, Lineman, "Organized Labor," and the daily press of San Francisco.

M. DODGE,

Secretary of No. 13, I. B. E. W.

GEORGE FISKE,

President of No. 13, I. B. E. W.

Pittsburg No. 14.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Local Union No. 14 submits the following list of members who have went to work for the Allegheny County Light Co. and Duquesne Light Co. since our last letter:

For the Allegheny County Light—Lake Skinner, J. O. Shidl, Harry Moore, Wm. Glenn, Ward Howe, Clyde VanWickle, J. S. Turner, John Griffith, Wm. Innes, Perry, Keeth, Walter McElhose, Walter Hamilton, Walter Mooney.

For the Duquesne Light Co.—Roy Daniels, Pat Sherrer.

Scabbing on L. U. No. 5, I. B. E. W.—M. J. McHugh, Wm. Finnegan.

Brothers, it is needless to say that as long as No. 14 had money these things were the warmest kind of union men. But as soon as the coin became scarce they made a break for the woods. They would remind you of blood suckers. As soon as the carcass is sucked dry they leave and hunt up another. Just as soon as the money became scarce away they go.

Well, No. 14 feels this way about it: If they are going to scab now is the accepted time, because a man that has any intention of burning his own house had better do it at once.

Fraternally yours,

J. A. GROVES.

Detroit No. 18.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Work with the inside men in Detroit is growing more plentiful and we expect to see all the members at work in a very short time, but as we have a legalized difficulty here we are not accepting traveling cards until all the brothers are again busy.

One firm that we had trouble with has talked business with us and now we have a number of men at work for them.

Another company that we have been out against since last September now realize the poor class of mechanics that skates are so they made a considerable cut in the wages, but business has fallen off until now they have only one or two men at work.

The members of No. 18 were very much surprised to learn that Mr. Brust, formerly a member here, had so far forgotten his obligation as to work against the Brotherhood by "pushing" a bunch of "skates" in Duluth. He was thought very well of while here and how a man can be so unprincipled as to work against a cause that deep down in his heart he must know is as much for his own good as well as his fellow-man, is one of those peculiar features of human nature that is hard to understand.

While Mr. Brust's actions reflect to a certain extent on us, still we do not like the Brotherhood at large to thing ill of us. We have a membership of "stickers" and their record for the past hard winter will compare with that of any in the organization. When work was scarce and the brothers knew they could get work and earn money that would buy things to keep them warm and well fed by turning to "skates," still they preferred to take chances with the hungry wolf and be fair to the Brotherhood and the obligation they had given their word of honor to uphold.

From the way the courts have dealt with labor organizations of late by issuing sweeping injunctions it would seem that labor would soon have to get into politics and elect men that will help to so shape our laws that the rights of the workingman will not be trampled upon and this matter of labor going into politics is something every member of organized labor should give serious consideration.

I have often heard complaints from members that they do not get their WORKER and have thought it would be a good plan if there was a printed blank in each WORKER that a member could fill out and send to the general office in case he does not receive the magazine or has changed his address. This would take work off the Financial Secretary and save some confusion.

With best wishes to the Brotherhood, I remain,

Fraternally yours,
M. T. GREEN,
Press Secretary.

Philadelphia No. 21.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

There is a person in this city by the name of Chas. Evans, who has acted the traitor to the I. B. E. W. on more than one occasion. There is a fine of \$30.00 standing against him in Local 299 of

Camden, but he says that he will never pay the fine, but that he will join the I. B. E. W. in some other city.

I hope you will make a note of this in the next issue of the WORKER to warn all Locals.

Fraternally yours,

H. F. BLACKODAR,
Recording Secretary 21.

Philadelphia No. 21.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, brothers, work is very slack around here since the trouble has been cleared up that the storm made, and there are as many men walking around now as before the storm, and there is certainly nothing doing around here in the line of work.

For the brothers that never attend the meetings or very seldom, think all they have to do is to keep their dues paid up, but that does not make you a union man. If all brothers did that there would be no union in a short while, and the brothers that never attend are the brothers that do all the kicking on the outside on the corner or in some gin shop after hearing part of something went on, and say it is a clique. Now, brothers, attend to the meeting and have your little say and break up them so-called cliques, and you won't have so much room to talk about what went on. All together, boys, going up.

Hello, Stormy Ferguson. What's doing?

BERT CHAMBERS,
Press Secretary.

Peoria No. 34.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As I have not seen a letter in our official journal in some time, I thought I would assume the duties of press secretary and let the brothers hear how No. 34 is getting along. Although times have been a little hard and work slack this winter, we have been taking in new members every meeting night. Brothers, it shows that the working man is beginning to realize that his hopes lie through organization. I would like to inform the new brothers that we just initiated that when you get a card your duties don't stop. You should attend the meetings regularly and encourage your officers to a greater effort and see that the business is carried on in your interest. We have a good many card men. What we want is union men who can show by their deeds that they are what they claim to be.

I see in the WORKER something that should interest the wife of every Electrical Worker. The ladies of Stockton should be encouraged in the work they

have started. I would like to see the ladies of Peoria organize and start work in this part of the country toward the same end the Stockton ladies are striving for. They would have my moral and financial support.

Brothers, we have a brother with us whose name is Work, and he is a worker for the organization. Every time he comes up to the meeting he has an application from the Bell company. Let the good Work go on and don't stop him.

Also Bro. Palmer, who is known by all the trades in Peoria and one of the best union men that any brother would wish to meet. If we had more such union men in our organization we would be able to push to the front very rapidly. He is a union man through and through, and wants every one to know it. Well, what do you know about that?

Bro. Bob Marlatt is the father of a 12-pound boy. Good luck to you, Bob.

I am glad to see Bro. Calkins back with us again. I think he will stay with us as long as Power's lunch holds out.

Bro. Henry is working at Glen Oak park—chief electrician. Go to it, Tiff.

Bro. Joe Kalin took to himself a wife. That leaves Jim Conger and myself left. Well, never mind, Jim. This is leap year. The old timer is still working for Dave Morris. He says he is too heavy to climb any more poles.

Well, brothers, why don't more of you inside men come to meetings. It looks to me that you take little interest in your union. Now, brothers, don't make excuses for not attending meetings, especially when caught down town standing on a corner on meeting night.

I wish also to notify the readers of the WORKER our newly-elected officers are as follows: President, C. MacKnight; Vice President, U. Ellis; Recording Secretary, F. W. Mattlin; Financial Secretary, R. L. Baker; Treasurer, J. Conger; First Inspector, F. Horine; Second Inspector, L. T. Henry; Foreman, E. Johnson. Our meeting nights are every Monday night at 123 S. Adams street, Trades and Labor Assembly hall. Any traveling brother coming this way, stop in and see how we do business. Be sure you have the green goods on you and you will be treated right.

Brothers, I believe that when an organizer goes into a place to work that he should be allowed to remain there for a time and instruct the men and not be compelled to jump from place to place, and I believe that you will find that there will be fewer strikes and a good healthy growth in membership.

I wish to state that I have been on the sick list for the past six weeks and thank the brothers of No. 34 for their kindness

extended to me at that time. With best wishes to sister Locals, I am

Yours fraternally,

F. W. MATTLIN,
Recording Secretary.

Buffalo No. 45.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As the date of the last notice which appeared in the WORKER has passed from our memories, I thought it not a bad idea to write a little and, as we have bothered you but little for space, you will probably show your generosity and publish.

The District Council of this vicinity is going to hold their convention in our city the latter part of May, and, although times are not very good, we will do our best to entertain all the delegates.

Brother Thomas J. McDougall was elected delegate to the convention and Bro. W. McLean was chosen alternate. The following were appointed as an Advisory Committee: Walter Merkins, F. J. Devlin, A. Cunningham, J. E. McCadden and J. B. O'Connor.

Times are not very good in this vicinity and many brothers are out of work, but we are managing to keep alive, nevertheless.

The Independent Telephone Company are going to install a plant in Spencerport, N. Y., but men are so plentiful that it is filled up already. R. Lester is in charge.

Thanking you for kindnesses in the past, and that you will make a special effort to get this into the WORKER for May,

Fraternally,

JOHN B. O'CONNOR,
Press Secretary.

Butte No. 65.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Since the last publication of the WORKER I have received numerous inquiries from members out over this jurisdiction in regard to conditions prevailing here since the resumption of the miners, and for the benefit of the brothers and organized labor at large I would advise no one to come to Butte at present. For a keen ear has the army of the unemployed. The whistle for resumption of the mines was not apparently only heard in Butte or the state of Montana or the United States, but the resounding echoes of those mighty thrills, cymigraphically or otherwise, around the unemployed proletariat in Germany, France and sunny Italy, and in less than eight days there were many brainy gods appeared from England and Emerald Isles and offered themselves in this already and over applied for and competitive labor market, and a slack labor market is quite pre-

valent throughout this intermountain district, and many more men than there is work for, and I would advise at this time any one seeking employment to beware of all employment agencies.

At the present writing there are but five of No. 65's members that are here that are not employed in some way, but not all working at the trade. And I am sorry to report that the R. M. Bell Telephone Co. is about the only company in this jurisdiction that doesn't want to play fair with organized labor. Somehow, some way we are entering the eleventh month of this long-drawn-out strike and we have been injured and the State Federation of Labor has been injured, and there is an injunction hanging over other organizations in the State growing out over this same trouble. We have been enjoined collectively and individually. We have been arrested, cited in to court, humiliated and convicted for the violation of one-man-made law, and sent to jail with having jury trial, but we are all here just because we are here and not because they want us here, and we are making the management of the R. M. Bell go some, as Grand Vice President M. J. Sullivan has been in the district for the past few weeks and has given his undivided attention to the cause and he is handling the trouble in very good shape. He has outgeneraled the management in every turn of the road. He is class conscious and uncorruptible, and some day his untiring, unceasing effort to secure justice for his class interest will be crowned with success. But the rank and file must assist in organizing the industrial field of unorganized wage workers and desist in scratching at the ballot box.

F. W. UTTER,
Press Secretary L. U. 65.

Dallas No. 69.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I know the brothers will be surprised to see a letter from old 69 again, if it escapes the basket, but nevertheless we are still on the firing line. Brothers, we want to warn you to stay away from the Sherman-Dallas interurban work, as the boys are all out on that job and have as yet come to no agreement. The Fred A. Jones Co. very generously informs the brothers that cards will not be recognized on the job, but those holding them will not be discriminated against, providing they behave themselves, as little gentlemen should. (?) Another thing which we desire to call the attention of the brothers to, especially the Local in this district, is the fact that in view of the Independent Telephone Co.'s demand that everything in their construction and maintenance crews must have clean cards, we are expecting quite a demand for the goods

from a lot of the Southwestern Tel. and Tel. Co.'s pets. So, brothers, be careful that they are all they should be before you put them in our ranks. This town is a little on the blink just now for both outside and inside work, but we will try not to grumble, and assure all brothers coming this way of the best No. 69 can do for them. We have the same chronic complaint to make as regards attendance. We have a small per cent of the members who show up every meeting night who make an earnest endeavor to hold up for those who are too busy to attend. But we are making a special inducement for the next thirty days to those busy brothers in the hopes that they will show their union principles by taking advantage of this opportunity. Well, brothers, I must close with a rush, with best wishes for the I. B. E. W.

Fraternally yours,

ROBT. W. ABRIGHT,
Recording Secretary.

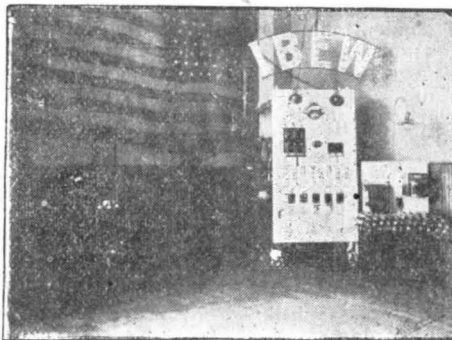
Cripple Creek, Colo., No. 70.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As there has been nothing from Cripple Creek in the WORKER for a long time, I have decided to send in a short notice and attempt to impress upon the membership at large that No. 70 is still in existence and as healthy as ever.

Although the Local is not nearly so large as it was in the boom days of the camp, still what are left (about 25) are almost all in good standing and still as faithful as ever in working for the Brotherhood.

On the 27th of February No. 70 gave its Second Annual Grand Ball, and it certainly was a great success. We had about 600 vari-colored lights in festoons and a number of electrical novelties and displays which pleased the crowd immensely. We had the largest crowd that has ever attended a ball in the district, not excepting the Firemen's Ball, and we feel quite proud when we can outdo the Firemen.



I am sending Bro. Collins a photo of the 'board and plant' we used at the ball,

and trust he will insert it in the **WORKER** with this letter.

We held an election of officers the first of the year, the result of which was as follows:

President—E. B. Woolley.

Vice-President—F. M. Hoffman.

Fin. Secy.—F. C. Burford.

Treasurer—C. C. Gibson.

Inspector—Carneal Twyman.

Trustees—18 months, Bailey Werner; 12 months, A. A. Hamnett; 6 months, G. R. Wolfe.

All of the new officers are taking a great interest in the affairs of the Local and in consequence I am pleased to note a decided increase in attendance resulting in a greater activity from all the brothers. I have also been much gratified in seeing a number of our delinquent brothers paying up their back dues and hope to see more to follow.

Fraternally, F. C. BURFORD,
Secretary.

Spokane No. 73.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As a newly elected Press Secretary, and not having seen anything in the **ELECTRICAL WORKER** from here, I don't know for how long. This, however, may have been due to "wires down," as our brother linemen but recently completed divorce proceedings against the inside men. Thus we parted, we losing our better half, or more correctly speaking, our bigger half, it came about as follows: After thinking it over for some time past, and suffering for its possibilities, occasionally with a little friendly "spat" thrown in now and then, we decided, after several earnest discussions, that it would be for the better of everybody concerned that we separate and form another local for the linemen, they taking withdrawal cards out of No. 73, and after receiving a new charter they henceforth are known as Local No. 609, composed of linemen only. With the separation goes the best wishes of 73 for the success of No. 609, and we feel that they entertain the same good wishes for us.

Seriously speaking, I don't believe that as far as similarity of interests of work is concerned, inside or outside men have now more than a jeweler and a blacksmith. Here in the "Inland Empire" work has been slack all winter, but is now improving every day. However, brothers, do not construe this as an invitation or suggestion that you had better come here. While we heartily welcome all desirable strangers in our city, I can not conscientiously advise you to come here in search of work, as several of the boys are idle yet. We are waging an everlasting war on what as a "pest" is best known as "scabs," and with our commander, worthy Brother A. T. Shortley,

President, at the helm, ably assisted by Bro. T. P. Masso, Financial Secretary and Business Agent, who is a "howling" success, we hope to exterminate this evil altogether in the future.

Hoping that I will not take up too much of the "**WORKER's**" valuable space, nor meet with any one's displeasure in this, my first, attempt at writing you, I am,

Fraternally yours,

E. HAMMER,

Press Secretary Local 73.

Spokane, Wash.

Seattle No. 77.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Your editorial in the March **WORKER** entitled, "Comments on Constitution," is worthy of discussion by the membership at large, and I feel personally and am also expressing the sentiment of the L. U. when I say that the constitution should be amended covering ambiguous and uncertain sections.

A great many of these points were covered in the ballot that was sent out. Some of them, however, were not and among them is one which you spoke about in the editorial. I refer to members in arrears to a defunct Local.

Section 3, Article V, provides that 30 cents shall be paid to the G. O. on each member. Sec. 9, Art. V, provides that the minimum dues to the *Local Union*, not the I. B., shall be 75 cents. Sec. 2, Art. II, provides that members may be reinstated by paying \$3.00 to their L. U.'s and *back per capita to the I. B.*

No where in the constitution can I find a place where authority is given any grand officer to demand or exact from any member, whether in arrears or in good standing, more than 30 cents a month.

There is only one way to amend the constitution, except at an I. C. or a meeting of the G. E. B., and that is according to Art. 34.

The case is a plain one to us in this neck of the woods.

We claim that the G. E. B. overstepped their authority when they issued orders to you to charge 60 cents a month to members who became in arrears through their L. U. going defunct. The order may be meritorious—some of us think so, but all are agreed that the E. B. made a mistake.

The better way would have been to call the attention of the body as a whole to the matter, and it could then have been easily rectified.

We cannot see how the I. B. can get more than 30 cents a month out of a member in arrears, whether he belongs to a Local in good standing or not, and do it legally.

JNO. S. WILSON,

P. S. for L. U. No. 77.

Milwaukee No. 83.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Having been a long time since old 83 has been heard from in the WORKER, will let the brothers know that we are still on earth, that is, a few of the old-timers. There is nothing doing in Milwaukee at present. The new company is still in the background yet. The Bell is working one man on a wagon now, and no prospects putting any more on.

We have our old war horse, "Bill" Moore, in the chair again, so I guess the brothers will attend meeting better than they have. Bro. Jim Kane gave us a good talk on the good of the union, and if we had a few more like him the I. B. E. W. would get along a lot better than it does. Well, old Jim is about to leave us, so brothers give him the glad hand when he comes your way as he is a good old soul and will live up things for you.

Well, I will close, as I have got a cramp in my fingers. Hoping to see this in the WORKER, I remain,

Yours in I. B. E. W.,

R. H. ROBSON.

P. S.—Bro. F. Curry has gone to Oshkosh to work. We wish him good luck on his way.

Rochester No. 86.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Divine Ruler to call from our midst our beloved brother, Edward Cahill; and

WHEREAS, Our deceased brother was a devoted and loyal friend and a zealous member of our Union; therefore, be it

Resolved, That our heartfelt sympathy be extended to the family of our deceased brother in the hour of their affliction; that these resolutions be spread on the minutes, a copy thereof transmitted to the bereaved family, and a copy sent the ELECTRICAL WORKER and Labor Journal for publication, and that our charter be draped for thirty days as a further tribute of respect to the memory of our deceased brother.

F. B. GLYNN,

E. KEEFE,

H. E. ERHARDT,

W. H. LARUE,
Recording Secretary.

Committee.

Newark No. 87.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Local No. 87 sends greetings to the rest of the electrical fraternity and trusts these few lines may attract the notice of some of the members of No. 87 who are in distant parts, as at present we have members located at all points of the compass from Newark, N. J. Owing to the scarcity of work in this vicinity it has become necessary for the members to seek

employment elsewhere. We who are left at home trying to conduct the working of the Local in a proper manner trust that wherever our wanderers may be located that they are conducting themselves in the same gentlemanly manner that they have always practiced while under the watchful eye of No. 87 at home, and that they will not fail to attend whatever Local may be in their near vicinity regularly.

I can not at this time report that the prospects are very favorable regarding new work here and all the companies employing men continue to plead poverty, although up to the present their dividends have not decreased to any preceptible amounts. They have rather increased if the public press is to be believed. But as in the game of base ball, each side has their inning, no matter how long the game may last. So let us all hope our turn at the bat may soon come, and as experience is a good teacher, resolve, when the opportunity does come, that one and all prepare and endeavor to make the inning a long one and receive the benefits thereof.

There is nothing of importance transpiring at the meetings of No. 87, although we continue to have a fair attendance at each and it is the endeavor to assist those who are in needy circumstances to the limit of our power, and each and every brother of the I. B. E. W. should bear in mind that there will come a time some day when certain people will be only too glad to employ the same ones who they have been the cause of much discomfitures and then, boys, be on the job and do not get discouraged. Keep your shoulder to the wheel and continue to get strength in numbers in the ranks, try to show by intelligent advice and information those who are not with us the advantage of joining our ranks, and continuing the work thereafter.

The officers of No. 87 and those members who attend each meeting deserve recognition of their meritorious work, and I fully believe that a roll of honor should be established in each Local and those who attend week in and year out should receive some honors more than those lukewarm members who appear to think that as long as their dues are paid their obligations end there, and it is a sad case, but nevertheless true that often these lukewarm members when they do come to a meeting (and then only when they have no other place to go) can not or do not realize they are not up-to-date in the business of the Local, but at the first opportunity begin to complain and kick up trouble. There is the time for the strong man (the bouncer, as he is called by some) to begin his good and just work and that may prove a lesson to the one removed and to others of his class. Brother, try and remember the

little busy bee who improves each shining hour and after this present depression of times pass be on the job for new members, strengthening the ranks and at all times remember your officers and working members, become one of them.

Yours truly,

H. G. EATON.

Jacksonville, Fla., No. 100.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Sunny Florida sends her Easter greetings to all. Well, the stringency in the money market has been with us too. So, boys, don't worry; we have nothing to lose. Some of us may have learned how to live on considerable less than we usually have done. Stand up for your union. Pay your dues. Have a principle of right. Be prepared to intelligently argue and show your side of the matter to the non-union and the doubter. Show to them their errors and by a manly talk you might get them to change their ways and open their eyes so that they will see we are working for the common good of all. The non-union men and the scab are not our worst enemies. The traitors and the selfish union (?) card men who sneak and pries into our confidence, and then go and tell the bosses and use their knowledge for their own selfish ends, the curs who carry cards just because they have to. Men of this kind have been with us and made good by their dirty work. They think they are wise. We are next, but owing to our crippled condition we have had to grin and bear it. Every man with the green ticket passing through here has been given a fair and a square deal. We cannot say the same of their treatment to Local 100. They have been received and taken into our confidence only to repay us by violating all fraternal ties and obligations, and with selfish, greedy aim copped in every dollar in sight. These fellows don't fear tainted money; in fact it seems as if their God is Mammon and we believe their prayers, if they ever pray, starts, O almighty dollar, I worship thee, and thee alone. I care not how I get thee, whether you come from my brother unionist share. I care not whether you should go to the support of an aged mother or loving wife and children; neither do I care whether you justly belong to help support an aged father, loving sister or the care of the orphans. You are mine. Whether earned in an open or closed shop, whether made in eight or ten hours, O almighty dollar stay with me. I'm only in the union for what I can get out of them, and you are what I want. O almighty dollar, come and stay with me. We have had some of those traitors and coin worshipers and they made good financially and our only wish is that every doll dishonestly gained may.

it cause their conscience (?) to burn and for every cent may they have a fifty per cent increase of trials and troubles, and when they face St. Peter at the gate he will say: Card man, you must take the elevator that is going down to the open shop regions. I'm sorry to say that the first break made in our eight day schedule has been made by brothers from what has been an up-to-date local, but now up against the open shop proposition too. Boys, when you win a point, don't be the first to give up. The bosses are laughing at how easy it is to pat you on the back. It is true this is open shop, but you should fight to the last. We are in need of men for members and want them to be men of principle. A sister organization has also contributed to our share of troubles. But there will be a day of receiving and then watch us deal with those who have treated us wrong. The open shop is still here and will continue just so long as card men and not union men travel.

Well, here's best wishes to Local 88 of Savannah, also our old friend, 108 of Tampa, Fla., to all of our brothers wherever they are, to all traveling brothers who acted right. Come, boys, act the part of men. Work together, help us out of this rut, and when all is ours, we can look each other in the face and say, Well done, boys; you have acted as men.

Fraternally,

E. J. McDONALD,

Financial Secretary.

Denver No. 111.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, brothers, as it is time for another letter I will endeavor to wake up, but it's a sad awakening, for times are very slow and dull around here, and prospects are bad for our craft. The only place that linemen are needed in our city at present is at meeting every Thursday evening at 8 p. m. at the King block, 1625-45 Lawrence street.

Hoping that all brothers will take notice and come, as your assistance is very much needed in transacting the business of the L. W. and I. B. E. W.

Yours fraternally,

PRESS SECRETARY.

Denver No. 111.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As I have been appointed Press Secretary I will now endeavor to let the Brotherhood at large know how Local No. 111 is getting along. Work has opened up some, but the W. H. C. K. Co. will complete their trolley job inside of two or three weeks and that will throw out at least twenty men, so I don't see how any traveler could better his condition by coming this way. I am sorry to say that we are losing one of our best mem-

bers, Bro. Hiatt, our F. S., as he resigned and intends to go west; also Bro. Weinand, our Vice-President, resigned, sorry to say, as he filled the position splendidly. We elected in their places Bro. Tubman, V. P.; Bro. Wm. Campbell, F. S. As Bro. Campbell filled the position as Foreman, his office was declared vacant, and Bro. Thompson was elected. I am glad to state that the members of No. 111 are holding very interesting meetings and that they are very well attended.

Will close, with best regards to the I. B. E. W.

C. S. GROVES,
Press Secretary.

Denver, Colo., P. O. Box 127.

Albany No. 137.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As it is time to write for the WORKER again I will try and let the Brotherhood know that 137 is still doing business. Sunday, March 22nd, we called a special meeting to hear a few remarks from our First G. V. P., James Reid, and I am sure every brother left the hall congratulating himself that he was present to hear the advice and good suggestions that Bro. Reid gave, as I am sure they will be of benefit to the Local. We hope that Bro. Reid will so arrange his plans so as to give No. 137 a few days of his time about the first of May to help us get a few more of our contractors right.

Well, as to work, there is nothing doing in or around Albany. We have several brothers walking the streets and it looks as if they will have to walk for some time to come. This panic that a few Wall street kings have forced upon us in order that they might make a few more millions for themselves is being felt keenly in Albany.

No brother could better spend a few hours of his time than to look up Senator LaFollette's speeches in the Senate the past week. He tells us plain who is responsible for this panic.

Now, brothers, we cannot take politics on the floors of our Locals, and it is a good thing we cannot. Nevertheless, that is the only remedy we have. We cannot expect anything better than we have at present unless we do as our English brothers have done and are doing. And as it is drawing near the time for us to go to the polls and vote I would like to suggest that each member study up the record of the representatives of your district so as to enable you to vote intelligently. Look them up, see how many injunctions they have placed against a labor union; see how many times they have fought against your cause. Brothers, our only chance is to forget our old politics and vote for men that will pledge themselves to support us in getting laws passed that will let us live.

I will not take up any more of your time. Hoping you will have room for these few lines, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

F. MINER,
Press Secretary No. 137.

Wheeling No. 142.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Enclosed you will find copy of resolutions passed by our Local at the last meeting on the retirement of Worthy President W. A. Kent.

WHEREAS, Our President, Bro. W. A. Kent, has deemed it advisable to change his mode of life from that of an electrical worker to that of a farmer; and

WHEREAS, We feel that by his decision we are losing one of our most faithful brothers; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Local No. 142, extend to him a vote of thanks for the interest he has taken in and the work he has done for this Local and the brotherhood at large; and further be it

Resolved, That by the adoption of this resolution we tend to express our heartfelt appreciation for his loyalty, and our best wishes for his future success; and further be it

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be published in the next issue of our official journal.

Unanimously adopted March 25, 1908.

Oklahoma City No. 155.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

It is about time for me to report if I want to see my name in print, as there is but very little news to tell.

At the present time there is but little work going on. There is most always some of the boys off duty and as far as I know there is not much in sight.

I have heard a rumor that the light company were going to open up some this spring, but it is only a rumor.

The street railway and telephone companies are just doing what you might say they have to, and have not heard of them starting anything at all.

Bro. Finnigan came back the other day after a short spin around the coast and says he is satisfied now for awhile.

Bro. "Catfish" Clark is back now from a trip for his health and is working again.

Can any one give a good prescription or a remedy for the "molly-grubbs," A few of the members here have got something and that is about the best name I know for it. Symptoms: Stay at home meeting nights, want some one to get them a WORKER, next day ask what took place, what so and so said, not satisfied with the way things are done, don't know

whether they will pay any more dues or not, Local No. so and so don't do this or that and L. U. No. so and so, and so and so.

This is not the only Local that has that disease, but it is monotonous and tiresome, and if such fellows as these that are carrying cards would attend meetings and put their shoulder to the wheel and push and try to boost rather than criticize the actions of a few, or do a little missionary work and look on the bright side of things, try to make their light shine rather than put it under a box with a very small crack in it and be sure that is on the side where some chosen one perhaps will see it, they would not feel so out of humor with themselves and would not have that funny feeling and far-away look when they met a brother with his button in plain view and his hat on the back of his head ready to give any one a good look or be seen.

If any of you have got that disease, try paying up your dues and get in good standing on the books, then say what you have got to say in the lodge room, not out in the alley next day or on top of a pole or up in some attic, or over a "can of suds" or any such place and see if you don't feel better.

Ginger up and show your colors all the time, not only on Labor day or some special occasion when the play comes up right to suit you.

Well, enough of this, so I will hang up till next time.

Yours fraternally,

AL. WALLER,
Press Secretary.

Lexington No. 183.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Brothers, there is a place on the map called Lexington. Were you ever there and had fun with the boys? Well, you would hardly know it by looking in the WORKER, as there hasn't been a letter in the WORKER for some time. Work is almost at a standstill here, most all the brothers are working, but they seem to forget meeting night. Brothers, we are still holding meetings at the same old place, No. 220 West Main street.

At our last meeting we imposed a \$25.00 fine on Bro. Frank Dick for bad conduct. Dick was working at Winchester, Ky., with five of our newly initiated members. Dick persuaded the five to drop their cards, that we were a bad lot, and No. 183 was no good; that they had thrown their money away, so you see he (Dick) has done us an injury.

Frank Dick was initiated by 112, Louisville, Ky., July 31, 1906, card No. 95425.

Well, we have had several floating brothers this way lately, so our meal

tickets provided for them with cards paid up to date. Don't come with your card not paid up and expect something to eat.

Well, I hope our amendment gets through this time, as we seem to need it badly.

Yours fraternally,

C. M. WYNHEIL,
Lexington, Ky.

Appleton No. 201.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

WHEREAS, It has pleased God, in His infinite goodness, to call from our midst our beloved brother, Vint H. Smith; and

WHEREAS, His friends and relatives deeply mourn his loss; be it

Resolved, That Appleton Local Union No. 201, I. B. E. W., be placed in deep mourning and have its charter draped for a period of thirty days in memory of our beloved brother, and that this resolution be spread on the minutes and a copy sent to relatives of the deceased and to our official journal.

RICHARD D. MILLS,
Vice. Pres.

W. H. PALMER,
Rec. Sec.

Logansport No. 209.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Just a few lines to let all brothers know that No. 209 is still having meeting at Nade's Assembly Hall on the first and third Friday of each month. Of course we only have about twenty members in good standing, but let all turn out at meetings and it would not look bad, but to have only seven, eight or ten members present it looks like some have the paid up card unionism and forget all about the meetings. Now, brothers, it is your duty to attend each and every meeting, not because you have to, but it makes every officer and member feel like his services and presence are appreciated to see a large attendance. We only meet twice a month and there is no excuse (except in case of sickness or work) that no member cannot be present. Don't come up to stay half the meeting or leave when it is half over, but come up and stay with us, and we will try and show you that we remember your faces since the last time you were up. You may need more than just the paid up card some day.

Work is very slack here at present, several members walking the streets, but we hope for better in the near future.

Success to No. 14 and all Local Unions having trouble on. It is hard enough times at present without any trouble, but if it is forced on to you may success be yours.

Yours fraternally, R. G. F.
Beg pardon of the Press Secretary.
Logansport, Ind., March 29, 1908.

Atlantic City No. 211.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Lost—Our Press Secretary. Reward for information of his whereabouts will not be paid. However, I would endeavor to enlighten you in reference to conditions here at the present time. I am very sorry to report they are very bad. The majority of the boys who are carrying the goods on them are walking the streets or on the beach gathering clams. It is our blessed privilege to breathe the ozone and tramp the esplanade. I advise all those who are considering the ways and means of coming here to postpone the visit until next fall unless they have the coin to pay their way. For the next six months No. 211 has her own troubles.

Fraternally yours,

HARRY H. FREED.

Vancouver No. 213.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, as I have been unfortunate enough to be elected Press Secretary I will proceed to deliver the dope to the best of my ability. No. 213 is still going along peacefully and gathering in a stray now and again, but is afflicted with the same disease as some of the rest of our sister Locals, non-attendance at meetings. (I didn't say smokers.) Now, brothers, why is it that you can pick out any old night in the year and give a smoker, with the usual accompaniments, after meeting, and turn out a record crowd, but at the next meeting you only see the same old stand-bys present, the men who do the work and have to stand the criticism? If the brothers would only come to meetings, do their criticising and air their views, instead of on the street corner or in front of the bar, how much more interesting it would make the meetings. Brothers, payment of dues don't altogether make you a good Brotherhood man.

Work in this neck of the woods is rather slack. The 'phone laid off one gang last week, and we have several inside men idle. Bros. Pringle and Montgomery were elected Vice-President and Financial Secretary last meeting night to fill out the present term.

Well, as this is my first offense I will close, with best wishes to the brothers and I. B., I am,

Yours fraternally,

H. L. FITZGERALD,

Press Secretary Local 213.

Vancouver, B. C.

P. S.—Hello Milwaukee.

TOMMY RYAN.

Owensboro No. 216.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I shall attempt to write another letter to be inserted in the next issue of our

valuable journal. Business in general is very dull here at this time, two banks having suspended business last week. Line work is extremely slow and the prospects are not very bright for the summer. I am sorry to have to report such, but it is the case. Some of the boys have got wise and secured positions out of our line, but they still want to be called one of the boys, so they keep their dues paid up. As a matter of fact we have some who are always, when asked about their cards, ready to give that same old hard luck story, whether they work or loaf. Brothers, it is our duty to keep our cards paid up to date; it don't cost any more to keep paid to date than it does to let your card get in arrears, then come and pay it all at one time. Besides, when your card is three months behind in the G. O. it takes nine months for you to get in benefit again in the G. O. A hint to the wise is sufficient, and I hope this will be heeded.

Bro. Fred Hunt has just returned from Lexington, Ky., where he has been at the bedside of his mother.

Well, as news is scarce, I will close the circuit. I remain,

Yours for the I. B. E. W.,

E. S. MITCHELL,

Press Secretary.

April 27, 1908.

Seattle No. 217.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As the time is due for another report. I will endeavor to write a few lines. Will say that work is dull in this city, and nothing much in sight. We have quite a number of idle members and a good many brothers have floated out of the city. We have sent a large number of circulars throughout the country to the majority of Locals, showing conditions in this city. Pay no attention to misleading advertisements. They are only intended to flood this country with men. Will say there have been large numbers of men induced to come to the coast and not find any work. It takes money to get here and living is high after you arrive. The result is after your money is gone, you have to depend on charity and stand a chance of going on the chain gang. Brothers, this is strong dope, but we might just as well tell the truth. Hoping this will do some good, I will change the subject.

It is our sad duty to state the death of one of our old and esteemed members, Bro. Peter Jorgenson. He fell down an elevator shaft in the Colman building on Jan. 28, and died within a few hours. By his death we lose a member who always kept in good standing and always endeavored to be a good card man. A large number of brothers attended the

funeral, which was held the Monday following, interment being at Mt. Pleasant cemetery.

Bro. M. Page ran a nail in his foot several days ago, but we expect him soon to return to his duties of Recording Secretary.

Bro. Ben Slater, of sister Local 77, received a severe shock on a pole recently, and it took some time to revive him. He is getting along nicely now.

We wish to again remind the brotherhood that our charter is closed to traveling cards. We have elected a new business agent, Bro. Frank Williams, and keep him busy. As news is scarce this time, I will come to a close, with best wishes to the brotherhood.

H. WEBER, Press Secretary.

Grand Rapids No. 231.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Having been appointed to write a few lines to the WORKER, I will try and tell in a few words what 231 is doing. We are still in the ring, but business in our line as well as in others is quite dead. Quite a number of our boys are walking the streets, picking up odd jobs and doing what they can to keep the ball rolling. Some have left the city, only to find work as slack in other places as it is at home.

At our last election the following officers were elected: Harry Hatch, President; William Delbridge, Vice President; Harry A. Barnes, Recording Secretary; Floyd Turner, Financial Secretary; Emmet Powell, Treasurer; Earl Cotton, Foreman; Lin Heth and Edward Hall, Inspectors. Hoping to have better news regarding work for my next letter, I remain

Yours fraternally,

HARRY A. BARNES,
Recording Secretary.

Decatur No. 242.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Just a word from Local 242, Decatur, Ill. Well, I thought I would write a piece for the WORKER to let you know that 242 is still pounding along very nicely, although not all of 242 brothers are working yet. There is not much doing in Decatur yet for linemen, as the Independent Telephone company are only working about ten or twelve men at present. They have all the underground cable pulled in and are putting on arms and guying.

Business is dull both for inside and outside electrical workers here. We are just holding our own here.

Well, brothers, if any of you come this way with a paid-up ticket, old 242 has a meal ticket you can eat off of.

Well, I will ring off, as it is getting close to quitting time.

W. T. HONBECK,
Press Secretary.

Ashland No. 255.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As it is time for another letter in the WORKER, I will try and see what I can do for Local 255. It must be nearly a whole month since the Brotherhood at large heard from us.

I must say that we are getting along fine and dandy, and if everybody else is getting along as good as we are, why nobody can kick.

Of course as far as work is concerned, it wasn't very plentiful this winter, but most of the boys that were out of line work found other work at the stove factory and got along till this spring. Now they are back at their old jobs. We have been getting new members in every meeting and now we have reached the skiddoo number.

Bro. Frank Tanner, our Recording Secretary, was married on the Q. T. in Duluth. Of course that's nothing new, but he should of said something to the brothers, as I know none of them would have done that to him. One good thing he done—he got himself a good looking wife. May they both live a long and happy life.

Am sorry to say that Bro. Jas. H. Welton lost his 17-months old daughter, Elizabeth, on the 5th day of April, 1908, and Local No. 255 sent some flowers down to the afflicted parents of the deceased daughter with deep sympathy.

Our meetings are pretty well attended and I must say that the boys are taking great interest in everything that is going on. Anyhow, if they know there's a smoker in sight. Some of the boys were talking about giving a dance, and if everything goes right, we will pull it off in the near future.

After our last meeting Bros. Hawley and Johnson gave what you would call a boxing contest. The side bets were running heavy in Johnson's side, but in the fifty-second round Johnson was put in the clear, and Hawley given the decision.

Bro. Tanner has ordered a new motor cycle and expects to have it in a few days. His old one is not fast enough, so he is going to give it to me (may be).

A mass meeting of union men and sympathizers was called to order at our city hall Monday evening, April 20, 1908, and it was presided over by Frank Ganthier and H. P. Johnson acting as secretary, they being respectively president and secretary of the Central Labor Council of this city. The meeting was short and to the point. The object of the meeting was explained by the presiding officer, and a resolution endorsing the attitude of the American Federation in its stand on the proposed amendment to the Sherman anti-trust law. It was unanimously passed and ordered sent to the senators of this state, and one to the rep-

representative from this district, also one to Speaker Cannon and Vice President Fairbanks. After they had accomplished this, the meeting stood adjourned.

Without doubt I think that every one of the twenty odd Local unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and representing some 1,300 men of this city, will pass upon these matters at their regular meetings and will pass similar resolutions.

In every city where there is a union similar action is being taken, and it is thought that with so many laboring men calling upon Congress to act that something will be done to give relief asked for, which is that labor unions be not classed as trusts.

Any brothers coming this way for work don't want to go any further after they see this, as there is not nothing more, only what the local boys can handle.

Hoping this letter will reach you in time to be published, with best regards to all, I beg to remain,

Yours fraternally,

S. J. TALASKA,
Press Secretary.

P. S.—Bro. Welton requested me to thank the brothers of Local No. 255 through the WORKER for their flower offering and kindness shown to him and family during the death of their little girl.

Oakland No. 283.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Just a few lines to inform the members of conditions on this coast. I am sorry to state that there is no work going on to speak of as yet. None of the companies are doing any construction work, and no indications of their doing any in the near future. The Home Tel. Co. have suspended operations in San Francisco and they are doing only maintenance in Oakland and working only a few men at this. It seems to be a question of money with all of the companies, for they certainly have the work to do, but they say they can not state when they will be able to do the work. Now, brothers, you can imagine the number of idle men we have here at the present time.

Well, brothers, Fighting Bob Evans will arrive with his fleet in a few days. He is due here May 6th, and both San Francisco and Oakland are preparing a grand reception. Some of our members will get a few days' work putting up the electrical decorating. There will be a hot time here when the fleet arrives.

G. P. McNulty and G. V. P. Sullivan are both in San Francisco, but I can't say how long they will remain. The No. 6 trouble is settled and everything going along as nice and smooth as can be expected.

Well, brothers, having no news of interest to write, will close, wishing all members of the I. B. E. W. every success. I remain,

Yours fraternally,

HUGH MURRIN,
Press Secretary.

Poughkeepsie No. 296.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, well, here is 296 again, and is looking fine after the hard winter. Well, brothers, things are just about the same around here, pretty slack. Work does not seem to pick up any.

Local 296 is going to have a dance on May 4, 1908, and we expect to have a big crowd. The committee is working hard to make it a good thing and I think they will. The only thing that we wish for now is a good cool night, but I suppose it is just our luck to have a boiling hot night. Well, we will have to make the best of it.

Well, brothers, I have not got much to say this month. Brothers, there is one thing that I want to ask: Why don't you come to the meetings? You all know where we meet and when we meet, so what is your reason for not coming? Brothers, don't stand on the corner meeting night and when the few members that have been to meeting come out, and ask what went on during the meeting. Brothers, come up to the rooms once in a while and help to do the business. The more we have the better things go along. We can't do business with five or six members, and do it right. Brothers, if you would stay away from the gin mills and rum holes a little more and come to a few more meetings we would all be better off. I know of brothers in this town that would sooner stand with their belly up against a bar and a glass of booze in their hand than to come to a meeting and hear the business read over. Well, brothers, really I came a little strong, but if you would come to meetings I would not have to do it.

Well, brothers, I think I have done enough knocking for this time. I will ring off this time. Yours,

B. SMITH,
Press Secretary.

Kansas City No. 330.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

On behalf of all brothers I will say that the Cable Splicers had such a hard fight in this strike that only a few that stayed and held this Local together as long as it did stay in the strike, there were eight (8) that stayed in Kansas City and keep the Local, No. 330, going, and that only a few are worthy of being called union men, while the other men that belong to Local No. 330 left K. C.

and never did write back or even send any money back to help defray the expenses of Local No. 330 of K. C.

Wishing all good luck, I remain,
 GEORGE DAVIDSON,
 Fin. Sec. Treas.
 7328 East 13th St., K. C.

New Brighton No. 342.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As I have been from coast to coast, but have at last settled down in this vicinity, have been here since last August working for the Valley Electric Co. Work has been good here all winter. All of our brothers are working, and No. 342 is holding her own and I always hope she will. Well, brothers, work looks pretty good here for the summer. The light company is changing their main line, the Beaver County Telephone Co. have a lot of work to do, and any brother that chances to drop up here with a paid up card will get the glad hand. I will ring off for this time.

Fraternally,
 S. P. MOORE,
 1011 6th Ave.

New Brighton, Pa.

P. S.—If Bros. A. Balfour or Joe McGill see this, I would like to hear from them. Your old buddy.

Norwich No. 343.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As I have not seen anything in the WORKER from Local No. 343 in the year that I have read it, I will try and say a few words to let the brothers know that we are still alive and doing business at the old stand. Work is rather dull here now. A good many of the brothers being laid off, but we are in hopes it will be better before long, but don't forget to come to the meetings, brothers, if you are not working. We need you at them just the same as ever, so don't forget the second and fourth Wednesdays.

With best wishes to the I. B. E. W., I remain,

Fraternally yours,
 J. C. LEONARD,
 Press Secretary.

Ft. Smith No. 346.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Local No. 346 is trying to make a new member every meeting but we are not able to land them that fast, but we get there just the same. There is very little doing here in any of the different branches as there is very little new work being done now. The Southwestern have just about finished their work of reconstruction and have laid off almost all the men they had.

We would like very much to know something about the strike on the Missouri & Kansas Tel. Co.

As it has taken me three months to write this, I sincerely hope it will miss the junk heap.

Fraternally,
 CHAS. I. ROBERTSON,
 Press Secretary No. 346.

Kansas City No. 356.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

If you will spare me a space in your valuable journal, I would be pleased to let the brothers know the conditions as they exist in this great city of Kansas City. We are still on strike with the Missouri and Kansas Telephone company (Bell), and are doing all in our power to bring it to a close this spring. We have had a long, hard fight and feel confident we will win in the end and are determined to fight to a finish. The company, through its agents, are circulating the reports that the strike is settled and in some cases cause brothers to drift in this striking district with the consequence of finding nothing to do. Brothers, you should not pay any attention to such reports, as it is a direct misrepresentation. We will be only too glad to notify you through our official journal when settlement is made.

For the benefit of the brothers of No. 54 of Columbus, Ohio, at this time I would like to make a few remarks about two ex-brothers of this Local who are at this time in your city—C. T. Rogers and Ora Reynolds. You may think it unjust in us to hold the \$15.00 fine against Reynolds, also the \$15.00 assessment against Rogers, which they refuse to pay, therefore keeping you from getting your town organized. As I stated above, we are on strike and have been since Aug. 23, 1906. For the benefit of same we levied an assessment on all brothers working at the trade. The assessment was levied in accordance with the constitution, which is a just one. Rogers having worked on a job under the jurisdiction of this Local while this assessment was on, still he refuses to pay same. We have other ex-brothers of this Local who refuse to pay same, and should we let one off of this we would have to let all off, so how can we ever force an assessment; should we follow such rules as that, let those pay who are willing and let those off who are not. Reynolds' case is different, I am sorry to say. He was one of our most active members when the strike was called, but later on for some reason he dropped back and went down and tried to get a job scabbing, but for some reason was refused; after which we had him before the Local, also executive board and considered the matter thoroughly and fined him \$15.00, which he agreed himself was reasonable enough. Hoping this will explain these two cases to all, so they will know we are justified

in standing out for same to be paid, I will say no more.

Below is a few names of the notorious scabs of this city since the first part of the strike: Geo. Barthel, Thomas E. Dowd, E. J. Farrell, Leonard R. Faulk, R. C. Farrell, Fred Grindrod, O. C. Gottschall, W. Holschott, Frank H. Hamburg, I. D. Hughes, James Kenerney, C. E. Kerr, F. F. Leary, Frank Lockridge, G. K. Lowry, J. Lawton, J. T. Montgomery, R. S. McMasters, C. E. Moore, James Moore, C. A. Nickle, Geo. W. Page, Tom Perry, T. Pullen, John Quinn, Wm. Razey, R. L. Ryan, P. S. Ryan, F. H. Rose, Thos. W. Rule, J. E. Red, Ralph T. Savidge, Henry Senystake, W. M. Weiser, E. C. Journey, Birt Bishop, R. W. Cunningham, G. E. Creig, Ira B. Hughes, Will Martin, Thos. W. Wilkinson. These are the most notorious scabs we have had in this trouble, but am glad to say most of them have been laid off and the rest have been cut \$10.00 on the month. If any of the brothers happen to meet any of this bunch, give them the go by, for they are bad eggs. I will bring this to a close, as I fear I have taken too much space already. With regards and best wishes to the I. B. E. W. at large, I beg to remain

Yours fraternally,

J. T. MURCHISON

Louisville No. 369.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Some months having elapsed since we were represented in the WORKER, we wish to announce that we are once more coming to the front.

Having been twice in trouble of late, once with the contractors (direct), next with the Building Trades Council (alternating), and having failed in both, owing to lack of support and desertions from our ranks, we naturally lost a good many members. Some we were glad to lose, while some of our good brothers were unable to pay dues owing to lack of work and hard times. We fortunately had a few strong hearted brothers who come to the front, and so we pulled through by the skin of our teeth and are now on the road to success.

With health and success to all, I remain

Yours fraternally,

MACK MILLER,
Press Secretary.

Portland No. 399.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Portland, Maine, by-gosh! Yes, we've got electric juice down here, and we've also got most of the boys who handle same in our Local, too. Brothers, it seems when I got up in our last meeting and called for a Press Secretary, that I

put my foot in it, so to speak. The bidding was low from the start, and the honor was finally awarded me at a price ridiculous, so here goes.

Work has been good here all winter, but is dropping off now, and moreover there is nothing at present in sight. It looks like a dull summer for us, to say the least.

While we have a majority of both inside and outside men in the Local, it is an uphill fight, as the trades union movement is not as strong here as it should be.

Come, boys, it's shoulders to the wheel, and all together; we'll get there some time.

Turn out to your Local meetings. It is not enough that you carry a paid-up card. Turn out and watch over not only your own interests, but those of your brothers. Every working man's interests are yours.

Am sorry to say that our President, G. A. Moody, lost a finger recently, but he has showed up cheerfully every meeting, even though he has to sign things with his left hand, which, judging from the expression of the Financial Secretary when he looks over same, is somewhat funny.

Hoping this, my first attempt, will somehow escape the waste basket, I am

Yours for the success of the I. B. E. W.

P. MITCHELL,
Press Secretary.

San Francisco No. 404.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

If you have room in your next issue of the WORKER, I would like to have you insert a little letter from a Local that is not heard from very much, but is here just the same.

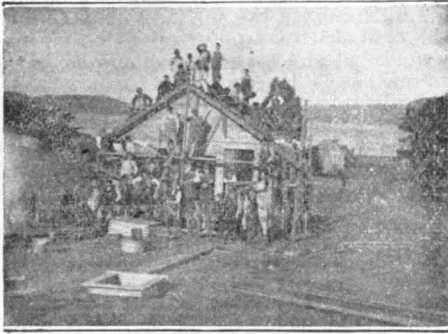
In 1907, Local 404 of the Brotherhood mourned the loss of one of its most loyal officers and members in Bro. William Taylor. Bro. Taylor was suddenly taken from our midst, leaving a widow and five small children, the oldest being but ten years old. The union, upon hearing of the helpless condition of Mrs. Taylor, started a benefit for her relief. A committee was appointed to find out what was the best thing to do, and after a good deal of discussion, it was decided to raffle off a suit of clothes. The raffle was to be for a \$40 suit, and the tickets 25 cents.

Through the generosity of the local unions of the Building Trades Council and the Labor Council of San Francisco, and also the locals of Oakland, the committee realized the sum of \$800.

After getting the money, the committee was undecided as to what to do with it, until some brother suggested buying a lot and putting up a cottage on it.

The committee then visited Local 1082 of the Carpenters to see if they could get

help from them in erecting the cottage, the committee getting the assurance from the Carpenters that they did, immediately proceeded to buy a lot, which was bought in Sausalito, and on Sunday, _____ 1908, the cottage was started, and the accompanying picture is the result of the first day's work, taken at 2 o'clock.



On the following Sunday the cottage was completed, and the deed turned over to Mrs. Taylor, who accepted the gift and thanked the various Local unions, who had helped her in her hour of need.

We also wish to thank the brothers of Local (at that time) No. 6 who helped us to erect the cottage, also the various unions who gave us their financial aid in this worthy cause.

Hoping you will find space for this in your next issue of the WORKER, and wishing the I. B. E. W. all success, I remain,
Fraternally yours,

ROBT. E. DONOVAN.

Ardmore No. 406.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

It is some time since you have heard anything from Local No. 406, and as I have been elected to do duty you may expect to hear from us often. Most all the boys are kept busy, but work is a trifle slow at present. The street car company have the poles set and are waiting on material to complete the line. They lack funds, as some of the boys have not seen the color of their money as yet. The Local is progressing nicely and we occasionally bring a new one into the fold. What we want is better attendance at the meetings, which are on the second and last Fridays of the month. The more the merrier, and it does us all good. Bro. Joe Taylor has joined the ranks of the Benedicts and has accepted a position at Belton, Texas. We wish him all happiness and may his troubles be little ones. I would like to hear from Bro. Ben West if he is still in the land of living.

The money panic hurt some while it lasted, but John Smith is gone but not

forgotten. This is a union town and any one coming this way who produces the goods is treated right.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing term:

President, A. A. Holcomb; Vice-President, O. B. Douglas; Recording Secretary, Paul Phillips; Financial Secretary and Treasurer, La Mont Byers; Inspector, Jim Stancil; Foreman, Mr. Jim Jordan.

It is the same here as elsewhere, nothing doing.

Wishing the I. B. E. W. continued success, I will ring off.

Yours fraternally,

O. B. D.,
Press Secretary.

Pasadena No. 418.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

One of the brothers got up the other night and wanted to know why there has been no letter in the WORKER lately from No. 418, so I guess it's my cue to rummage around my think tank a little and get busy, so here goes.

Southern California has certainly had her share of the recent panic, notwithstanding what the papers say. There are thousands of men from all the different crafts out of work, and from the present indications they are apt to be out of work for some time to come. Summer is coming and the tourists are leaving and consequently men are being laid off.

I don't know what's the matter with the different companies on this coast. I guess they think the work is all done.

I was over in Los Angeles yesterday and there is an awful bunch of hikers hanging around there and we took a count here in Pasadena the other day and found 15 out of work, so a person can easily see how things are.

Hello, there, Mallinson of No. 50. I see they put you in the chair again. Well, that's good.

My think tank's getting kind of dry so I guess I'd better take me tools off for this time.

Fraternally,
L. H. PRESTON,
Press Secretary.

San Diego No. 465.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, here goes for a few lines for our WORKER. As all the brothers here who have been Press Secretary say their letters went the waste basket route, I will try my luck and see what success I will have, as this is my first attempt since elected.

Local No. 465 is in the front and we intend to remain there. Nothing doing at line work here at present, and the inside work seems to be at a standstill. We have pretty good meetings but could be better if we could get the brothers up

there. Now, brothers, attend meeting and help with the business, and if things come up you don't like, get up and say so, instead of waiting on the street corners for some news peddler to give you the wrong dope.

This Local has been trying to get the organizer down here for the last month, but it seems as though we can't succeed. The linemen are all card men and not ashamed to wear the button where it can be seen, with two or three exceptions. I guess the inside men think they don't have to carry a card, for there is only a few transferred to No. 465 when their Local busted up.

Local No. 465 is near the 100 mark and if we succeed in getting an organizer down here I think he could round up about 25 or 30 inside men.

No. 465 is prompt in sending her per capita tax to the general office and also to the P. C., and so we think we are entitled to some consideration from both.

Hoping you will find space in your columns for these few lines, I will close the circuit and say good night.

W. W.

San Bernardino No. 477.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Once more Local No. 477 will be heard from, and I am glad to say we are doing some business in the membership line. Since Organizer White was here last month we have taken in several new and delinquent members, and I think the smoker was a pretty good success as it roused things up a little bit.

There is nothing doing in the work line here now to speak of. Everything is dead as ever. The telephone companies have three or four men each.

The city intend to have a street fair in San Bernardino about the last of April and there will be a bunch of electrical wiring to do a week or two, I suppose.

Hurrah for San Berdoo!

That's all for now.

Fraternally,

I. POTTER,

Press Secretary No. 477.

Detroit No. 553.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Everybody will make a mistake once in a while; some even will make more, some will make a lot of them, but never before have I seen such an accumulation of mistakes as there were in the March edition of the WORKER. He whoever was setting the types for this certain edition must have been in quite a hurry that night, probably he had a date with his sweetheart, and did not want to have her waiting for him. It is disagreeable, you know, I mean the results of it.

There is one thing I would like to say something about, and that is the label. I am sorry to say that I have seen card men go to work and buy, for instance, a pair of shoes for \$3.25, non-union made, where they could have got a pair of the same quality of leather but undoubtedly of better workmanship, because made under fair conditions, for \$3.50 at the next store. This union man is doing that for the sake of 25 cents. He does not stop to think, he does not remember that he is a union man; he does not consider that by buying union made goods he is faring better in the long run. He does not know that every time he is buying non-union made goods he is delivering a blow to the cause he has pledged his word to help and further. And all that for 25c. He does not think for one minute that by buying the label he most probably would have got \$1.00 worth more service out of the shoes. But there is so much said about this theme and there will be much more said, and I hope that the time is not so very far distant when all union men will not only talk union but act it also.

In regard to the situation here in Detroit in the Cable Splicers' branch of work, I am sorry to say that conditions have not improved any since last month. The Home Co., which had 12 splicers working last month, laid off six of them; the Bell is doing no new construction work except a little in the state. There are still a number of brothers idle in town. If you do not believe it, see for yourself. I myself have been out of work for quite a while now. But better times will come.

Fraternally yours,

B. SCHULTZ,

Press Secretary No. 553.

Tuscon No. 570.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, I will endeavor to give you a little news of Local No. 570. We have the sad misfortune of announcing the death of Bro. Clifford F. Youmans, who was killed on the 21st of March. In Bro. Youmans, 570 has lost a true and loyal member, who will be missed by all the boys. Bro. Youmans was killed while shooting trouble for the telephone company by coming in contact with 2,300 volts, which killed him instantly. His remains were taken to Rochester, N. Y. He was a good and honest worker and liked by everybody that knew him.

Well, work here is just jogging along. Once in a while the telephone company takes on a man. There are quite a few of the brothers in here every day. All that have the goods on them are treated the right way.

Well, as this is my first trial at writing, I guess I had better pull the plug and

ring off. With best wishes to all the brothers, I remain

Fraternally,

H. M. HEPBURN.

Hammond No. 571.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As Press Secretary, I will endeavor to let the Brotherhood know that 571 has come from under the dark clouds, and sees her way clear for a bright future.

L. U. 571 is practically a new Local on account of the slow progress being made during the past few months of its existence, owing to many difficulties, has at last succeeded in coming out on top.

We have most of our brothers working, but owing to so many shops shutting down it leaves a number of brothers idle. Contractors are employing the majority of class A brothers at present, and hope for better conditions in the near future.

Our committees are doing good work in their respective lines, and are on the lookout for the lads that do not carry the little green card up to date.

The meetings are very interesting and I hope all members will make it a point to attend as often as possible, so they will have no reason to complain of what they should do or should not do.

We have changed our meeting place, and now our headquarters are in the Huehn block. Meetings are called every Friday night at present, and hope if any traveling brothers are in town they will give us a call.

This being my first attempt at correspondence to the WORKER, I hope this will escape the waste basket.

Yours fraternally,

R. F. ABBOTT,
Press Secretary.

1023 Jackson Blvd.

Lead No. 577.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Local No. 577, Lead, S. D., is yet in its infancy, being considerably less than a year old.

Although nearly all of the other trades here are well organized, this is the first attempt to organize the Electrical Workers, and we feel that we have already accomplished a great deal.

We have been taking in new members right along, until now we have as members nearly all of the Electrical Workers in this section of the country.

No. 577 is necessarily a mixed Local, on account of there not being men enough employed in the different branches of the work to have separate locals.

Through the influence of other and older unions, we already have the eight-hour day, but conditions are far from what they should be in regard to wages.

We are at the present time working on

a wage scale, which will soon be presented to the different employers for consideration, and through which we expect to derive much benefit in the way of better wages.

With best wishes for the I. B. E. W., I am, sincerely,

J. L. MULLEN.

Morristown No. 581.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

It is a long time since you have heard from Local No. 581, but nevertheless we are still here in Morristown, New Jersey, and still kicking about the lack of work. No doubt you have heard the same song from other Locals. A number of the members that have been longest out say that if they don't scare up work soon they will die of the spring fever or join the organization known as the "Sons of Rest," but they were only talking. We have thirty members on roll and the attendance at the meetings keeps up pretty good. It is "Open Shop" nearly throughout the State, but it does not worry the members very much, as they think good unionism is stronger than "Open Shop" any day, and of course we expect to win out in the end. We handed in our demands to the bosses on April first and some gave their approval and some their grunts of disapproval and their opinion of such. But I think by July 1st they will come to terms. As I have nothing more of importance to write I may as well close, with best wishes from Local 581, I remain,

Yours truly and fraternally,

ARTHUR S. BOAG,
Recording Secretary.

Tulsa No. 584.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Hello to all the brothers and Locals throughout this broad land. This little Local was born in September in the Indian Territory, but since that time we have been born again in the way of Statehood and now we are known as No. 584 of the forty-six star.

This country is young. It has got to be developed, and we feel while it is being developed that there is going to be street railways built and telephone and telegraph lines throughout the country. In the town there will be large and small machinery run by motors. And now, brothers, it takes the hand of the electrical worker to get this current here and there and to man this machinery. We feel in developing this forty-sixth star that we are yet in the youth of development and that it can not be done without the aid of the Electrical Worker. Now to all of the sister Locals and to the individuals in these Locals we should see to this new State, see that no man works

here without carrying the same green card that you and I carry; see that every man has taken that obligation that holds the workman of our craft together; that if he lines up to this obligation he will not only help to maintain an honest living wage scale. By seeing that there is not one in the borders of this forty-sixth star that is out of our Local; by being a brother to a brother and stay by a brother, and by producing a fair day's labor for our wages. We want to grow and keep up with the growth of this new State.

Now, brothers, I want to say that we can never do this if we are tramped and ground and hounded down by the few judges that have the power to ignore all the laws the people have made and put in force a law in the form of an injunction and cause this to become a law that cannot be repealed. One man made this law, all the people cannot repeal it. Who can make this law if any of our brothers can make one? Just let him get busy and make one that will force the corporations to pay us what we produce. No, no, we cannot get this law (or injunction), but most any capitalist or corporation can.

Now, brothers, think this over and you will find that there is only one way to revise this; that is at the voting polls, and then you are not sure that your vote is counted on the side you aim it to be or not. Watch what way you poll your vote.

Well, Local 584 is still adding a new light to the circuit. Every new one calls for one more. Work is scarce here. We had a fire here that put some of the Pioneer's cable out of commission. It gave work for some of the floaters for a couple of days. I used two of our idle brothers for almost a week repairing and stringing in some new circuits on the city's Gamewell fire alarm wires.

We had a little trouble here with the new five-story bank building. With our worthy delegates up and in the harness at the Central Trades Assembly we cleared the way for the Electrical Workers. It is a fair job once more. We are thankful to our three worthy delegates, Bros. F. J. Tennant, G. W. VanHorn and Bro. Mercer.

The Light is doing nothing only maintenance work. The telephone company layed off some linemen last night. None of the oil companies are doing any line work.

Our Local had a petition before the City Council last Monday night for the Council to appoint a City Inspector, and the petition endorsed Bro. Paul Edinger for the place. There will be a committee report on the matter next Monday night.

We have two brothers out of work at present. Inside work is just about hold-

ing what men we have here. Any brother as they can financially do so. coming this way will be treated right, but we will not assure him a job.

Hoping I have not overlooked anything, I will ring off, with best wishes to all the Locals.

J. A. NORRIS,
President 584.

Tulsa No. 584.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Things are very quiet here, but we manage to keep a ll brothers working some of the time and some all the time.

We look for things to open up in about six weeks.

Bro. Sims and Bro. Cunningham of No. 309 blowed in last week. We finally landed them on an out of town job for one of the oil companies.

We are having some trouble with a scab inside wireman and a picture show, but the boys say if he don't come clear the first of the month that they will see our Central Trades and Labor Council and have them to look up the law and find out if there is any law to compel any one of the 800 union men in our town to go to their show.

Our Local is one of the best in the new state and it being a new Local and has only 31 members, but every one is a worker and don't forget to come to meetings and also pay their dues. We are very careful with the Local's money. We meet on the north side fire station in the electrical room and dont have any rent to pay, also have had good luck and no member has been sick this winter.

The Pioneer Telephone Company is going to put on another drop wagon for a few days, and then lay off the best paid men. The light or street railway is not doing anything.

We send our best wishes to the Brotherhood at large.

J. A. NORRIS,
President L. U. 584.

P. S.—Don't come this way unless you have the green goods paid up-to-date, for you can not land.

Fremont No. 587.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As Local No. 587 has never been heard from since its organization in October, 1907, and as I have been elected Press Secretary, I will endeavor to let the Brotherhood at large know something about ourselves. At our last meeting we initiated our fiftieth member and feel pretty proud of our Local over this, and this is not all. We expect to keep on with the good work, getting them all as fast as they come. We still have two or three men who are on the outside, but they are willing to come inside as soon

In reading the correspondence over in the March issue I noticed a letter from Local No. 285, Fargo, N. D., which I believe every man in the Brotherhood should read. Brothers, look up your March WORKER and read this. It will do you good. A word to the wise is sufficient, you know.

At present there is not much doing here, but I believe work will open up in the near future. If we get more than we can take care of, I will ask the G. S. to issue an extra edition and let all the brothers know about it.

W. J. T., Press Secretary.

Kansas City No. 592.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, we are moving along nicely for the short time we have been in the field. The houses here have gone in the Citizens' Alliance and I suppose that they think that we are asleep, for K. C. slept so long.

Bro. C. C. Neese went to a shop for a job, having been out of work for some time, but what did he find but one of those pedigree cards. They wanted his family record for generations back and who he worked for, why quit, fired for what, and so on. On the other side was this: Well dressed,; medium poor,; good looking,; bad,; dark, light,; good tools,; poor tools,; slow,; fast,; how long worked,; why fired,; space for contractor to sign. What do you think Bro. Neese told him? He didn't come there to sign his death warrant, but for a job and if he wanted his address that was all right, but he was not going to sign that thing, so Bro. Neese got our worthy B. A., Wm. Hoage, and told him, so Bro. Hoage shoots down there and has a talk with him, so now they want Bro. Hoage to come to one of their meeting and of course I see him going with a pocket full of wires to tie all of the good points and his pliers to cut off the bad ones. He is going to have our president along, but I will vouch that Hoage does the work, if any comes off.

Things are very slow here. We have some of our members out that have been out for some time, and 124 is trying to hold up a few of the brothers till spring gives them a chance to go to work.

WM. E. SKINNER, Press Secretary.

Minneapolis No. 597.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As 597 has been doing business since last December and haven't been heard from through the WORKER, I will try and see what I can do, and sincerely hope my efforts will not be crowned with the waste paper basket.

Well, we have a good lively Local with about fifty members and pretty good attendance, although it could be better than it is. We have had Bro. Fisher, P. D. C., with us several times and he has given us some good advice.

We are meeting at present every Tuesday night and I think it is a good plan, as we never have a lot of unfinished business to attend to. Will move into our new hall, the Richmond halls, 3 Ave. So. and 5th street, on April 7, then we will be prepared to initiate all the candidates that Bro. Jack Lewis can bring in, or all any brother can bring, for that matter.

In regard to attendance, brothers, your presence is just as essential at our meetings every Tuesday evening as they are at any other place and it is your duty to yourself, your family and your Local that you attend. Don't stay away and then think that the Local is not being run right. Will give you line-up of our officers: President, V. A. Wells; V. P., your humble servant; Fin. Sec., E. A. Broberg; Rec. Sec., J. B. Tiroux; also Press Secretary-Treasurer, Andy Newgard; Trustees, Ira Seals, Chas Ross and Bro. Cune; Inspector, E. O. Smith; Foreman, J. Neville; Business Agent, Bro. J. Lewis.

The above, I think, is about all for officers, and about all I have to say.

Hoping you can find space in the WORKER for this and maybe Bro. Tiroux will come across with a little news, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

S. G. DYER, Local 597.

Iowa City No. 599.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Iowa City Local Union No. 599, I. B. E. W., never had a Press Secretary until our last meeting when our President, Bro. Leedom, called for a motion authorizing the president to appoint one. This motion was, of course, forthcoming. It was duly seconded and duly carried and I was DULY appointed. My theory has always been to never accept a position unless I make an effort to do my duty. I believe my duty as Press Secretary is to let brothers of other unions know of our existence and if possible to encourage those who may feel like falling by the wayside.

Local Union No. 599 of Iowa City was organized on Dec. 8, 1907, Bros. Conrad and Isentroth of Cedar Rapids doing the work. Too much cannot be said in praise of these good brothers who devoted their time and talents for our benefit. Bro. Conrad even missed his dinner that he might give his time undivided to us. We feel that it is but fitting that we should hereby express our thanks for the work of these good brothers. We hope some day to be able to repay, if not to them,

to some others the work done here by them for us.

We are a mixed union, our membership is small and our attendance is smaller.

Have just received the report that one of our members, Bro. A. J. Triska, is confined to his home with small pox. We will all feel very sorry for Bro. Triska, as he is a general favorite among the boys of 599. Bro. Triska is particularly unfortunate, having been out of employment for some time, and just now, brothers of 599, let us show the fraternity of the I. B. E. W. by doing everything we can for Bro. Triska while he is in distress. We are obligated to do everything we can to relieve the distressed among our brothers and let us now remember our obligations.

If this does not meet with the fate it deserves, i. e., the waste basket, you may hear from me again.

G. F. RAMSEY, Press Secretary.

Spokane, Wash., No. 609.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As we have organized a new Local of the linemen here, No. 609, of which I would like to give you the names of the officers: President, J. E. Hicks; Vice-President, C. H. Pflugar; Recording Secretary, J. F. Ferguson; Financial Secretary, E. L. Stier; Treasurer, Al Knapton; Foreman, Mr. Neulms; First and Second Inspectors, O. Snyder and Willie Hackerman; Trustees, C. A. Washburn, R. Armstrong, Pet Anderson.

Our new union started out with about two hundred members and is getting along fine. We meet every Wednesday night at the Pantages Hall on Howard street.

Information as to the whereabouts of Bro. Godfrey Nelson will be appreciated by his brother, Wm. Nelson, and Bro. Guy Hart would like to be heard from by C. A. Washburn.

C. A. WASHBURN, Press Secretary.

Crystal City, Mo.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As there is no Local in this town, and being a member of No. 245, where I attended meetings as regular as the old standbys that were keeping the home together there, I feel like advising some of the brothers in all Locals who make it a point to attend about one meeting a month and expect a dozen or so of the old standbys (and most of them married, at that) to keep things going, so that they can drop around occasionally and pay dues. It isn't right, brothers. We must keep our charters. We are not going back at all, but on the contrary are pushing ahead, but who can we thank for it? Why, the answer is in front of you. If it was a snake it would bite you. The "Standbys." They are always there,

and the absentees get the full benefit for the "standbys'" presence at every meeting.

Take a "floater," for instance; isn't he the "guy" that keeps up the price? Answer, yes. You can't answer otherwise. The Local members, I mean the members who live and have always lived in the same town, I have known them to be called "Home Guards," are the worst "absentees" from meetings. But let trouble show up or they lose their jobs, why, the hall wouldn't have enough chairs for them. Why? Because they want to know how the old "standbys" are handling the case.

If you meet a "floater" you will invariably find him without a "sou," but if you hold him up and search him, a copy of the ELECTRICAL WORKER, worn a bit, perhaps, will show up. Why does he carry it? Of course the brothers will tell me "It's to direct the brother to the Financial Secretary, who will always stand good for two meals and a "flop." That's true, but when the brother hits a town you will invariably find him at all the meetings and he has his "bit" to say, too, and his talk is for the good of the union, especially in regard to attending meetings and keeping the card paid up. Had it not been for organization of the Brotherhood we "fixers" would be getting what was considered high wages twenty years ago. That was \$50 a month or \$2 a day. The writer knows from experience. Attend the meetings, brothers. You are the beneficiaries. You "absentees" will find out that I am right if you ever have to leave your happy home and go down the track talking to yourself. I only wish I had a chance to attend, as I do like to hear arguments on the labor question. Another thing that I saw sadly neglected at the meetings, that is "Discussions on Practical Electrical Subjects." Brothers, you miss one of the best subjects when you do not attend and discuss the theoretical side of your work. It sure does help a practical worker to have theory. Now we all cannot attend technical schools, so why not let each and every Local take up the subject and discuss it? It certainly will benefit any brother, as the writer knows every Electrical Worker should do a certain amount of study of the theoretical side of his work, and then come up to the meetings and compare notes; that's business, brothers. We are now living in the third phase generation, having gone through the single and second phase, so let us keep going ahead by a little bit of study and attending meetings. Every little helps. The exciter voltage is getting low so I will conclude. Hoping this letter will not weary you, and hoping to hear from other brothers. I am,

HARRY MATHESON,
Address, "Anywhere."

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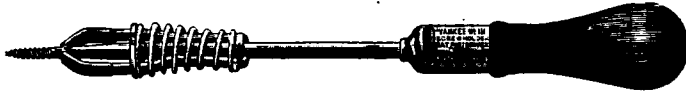
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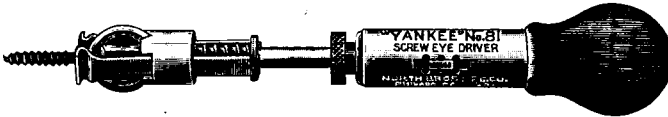
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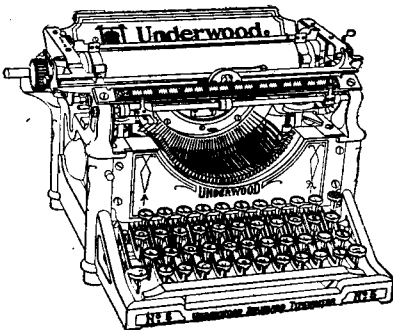
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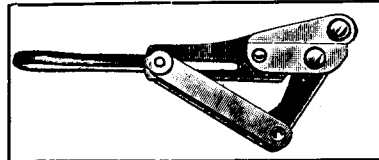
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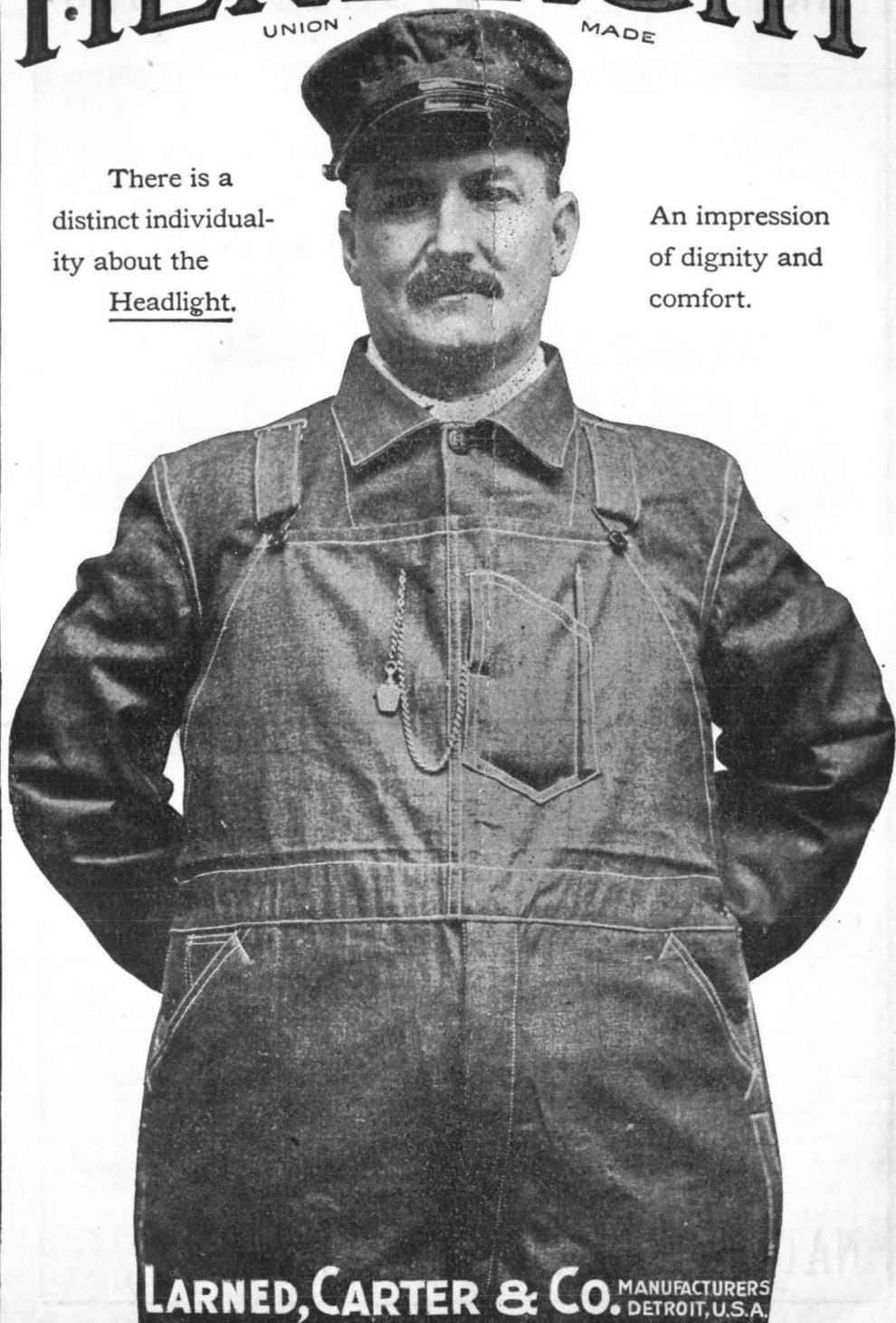
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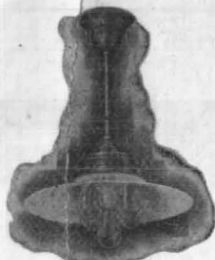
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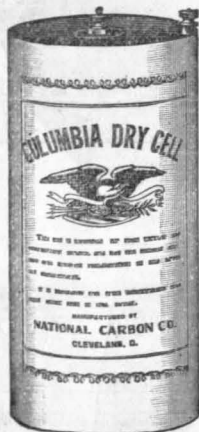
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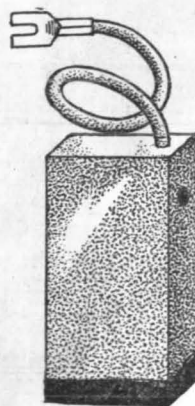
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